The New-York Times.

VOL. XII—NO. 3512. NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1862. PRICE THREE CENTS.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Late News from Richmond Papers.

The Blockade Run at Charleston by a Very Large Steamer.

A Heavy Freight of Shoes, Blankets, Cloth, and Other Supplies for the Rebel Government.

The Rebel Troops to be Clothed Like National Troops.

OUR SPECIAL ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Richmond papers contain a dispatch from Charleston, dated 19th, announcing that a very large steamer, freighted for the Confederate States Government, safely arrived yesterday at a Southern port, bringing a heavy stock of shoes and blankets, an immense quantity of cloth, and other supplies.

It is stated by rebel officers that a large establishment is engaged in Richmond making pantaloons of the same color and texture as is furnished to our soldiers. Large numbers of them appeared on the rebel troops in Fredericksburgh yesterday during a flag of truce.

Gen. BONHAM has been unanimously elected Governor of South Carolina, in place of Gen. MAXEY GREGG, who was killed in the recent battle of Fredericksburgh.

EX-Gov. WISE is spoken of as a prominent candidate for Governor of Virginia.

LETTERS FROM THE ARMY.

Senator Harris in Camp—Gen. Franklin—Arrival of Gen. Wadsworth and Staff—The Military Position Unchanged.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Monday Evening, 11 o'clock, Dec. 22, 1862.

Senator HARRIS, of New-York, arrived here, yesterday, from Washington, accompanied by Dr. D. BAILEY, of Albany. Other Congressmen are also journeying hither. Surgeon-Gen. KING, of Pennsylvania, reached Falmouth on Saturday, and dined yesterday with the officers in charge of DOUBLEDAY'S Division Hospital. He comes to provide for the wants of the wounded belonging to Pennsylvania regiments. Gen. FRANKLIN, accompanied by his Staff, rode out among the camps of the left wing today, to inspect the quarters of his men, equipped in military hat, with rim depressed *à la* Burnside, plain "regular" surtout, dark pants and army boots—free from all military trappings. His appearance presented a strong contrast to the showy dress of his retinue.

The medical branch of the service has lost a valuable member by the withdrawal from the army of Surgeon H. N. BALLOU, Medical Director of Gen. HOWE'S Division, Gen. SMITH'S Corps. Dr. BALLOU came out as Surgeon of the Second Vermont, Col. WHITING, and has been one of the most successful practitioners in the army. Dr. ALFRED L. CASTLEMAN, Surgeon of the Fifth Wisconsin, another volunteer officer, has just sent in his resignation. We know not what may have influenced these gentlemen to leave the field, yet we are aware of a growing feeling of discontent among army Surgeons, on account of the act of Congress reducing their salary to the amount of $450 or more. Many of them have left lucrative practices to offer their services in the army, influenced by no selfish motives, but from a desire to have the soldiers receive the benefit of their experience. The *post facto* act of Congress cuts down their remuneration to a sum barely sufficient to maintain their families.

The appearance of Gen. WADSWORTH, with Staff, at Aquia Creek, gives plausibility to the rumor which has been in circulation some time, to the effect that he was going to assume command of DOUBLEDAY'S Division, KING'S old. You will remember that he formerly commanded a brigade in this division, consisting of the Twentieth N. Y. S. M., Twenty-first, Twenty-third and Thirty-fifth New-York Regiments. It was at this point he took leave of his men last March, to assume the duties of Military Governor of Washington. The parting was a most affecting one. Going round to the various regiments, he bade them a most affectionate adieu, while the tears moistened his eyelids and poured down the cheeks of many of the officers and privates. Nothing but a speech would answer, and accordingly, seated on his horse, the General addressed a few words to the men, at the close of which they rent the air with their cheers. He was very loth to leave, and has many times since expressed himself as desirous of returning.

No change has occurred in the position of affairs in front to-day. The enemy continue to show themselves in numbers in Fredericksburgh, while their white tents, so long concealed, are beginning to peep out above the woody crest beyond, as the trees are being felled, and they have become indifferent as to our knowing of their whereabouts and position. Their pickets along the river bank, who, prior to the battle, paced their beats with impunity, now seek refuge in houses, rifle-pits, or behind rude earthworks, hastily thrown up. Various movements are taking place on this side of the river, but none looking to an immediate advance upon the enemy. J.

Picket Duty—Removal of Gen. Burnside's Headquarters—Efficiency of the Medical Service.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING OF ARMY, Saturday Evening, 11 o'clock, Dec. 20, 1862.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the tranquillity of the army, save an occasional shot from our heavy guns at suspicious objects on the other side. The anxiety at our hospitals along the river on account of the withdrawal of our picket line, was dispelled by the appearance of a new picketing force about 7 o'clock. Instead, however, of stationing themselves by the river, the men took up position in a ditch running back a short distance from the river, and in line with MEADE'S and GIBBONS' Division Hospitals. The rebels likewise, instead of pacing to and fro along the river bank, as was the case before the battle, now remain stationary behind diminutive earthworks hastily thrown up. The rebels continue to dig rifle pits and throw up breastworks in the vicinity of Fredericksburgh. They have again occupied the city in force, but whenever we desire to rid it of their presence, all we have to do is to open upon the brick and mortar with our heavy guns, and a general skedaddling to the woody crest will follow. Fredericksburgh will be a most thoroughly ventilated city before Gen. BURNSIDE gets through with it. The General, accompanied by SIGEL, came up on a special train from Aquia Creek yesterday. His headquarters, together with all the surroundings, are to be removed to-morrow, so reads an order issued this afternoon. Did I know, it would be improper for me to make known the site chosen for a new encampment. It is probably not more than a mile from here. On my way down from Falmouth this morning I met with a company of female contrabands of all ages, trudging along with bundles on their backs and babies in their arms, striking out, as they informed me, for Washington. Their countenances all bore a most cheerful expression, and they were evidently not displeased with the idea of journeying to Yankee land.

I have spent most of this day among the sick and wounded, and find them doing remarkably well. The new medical arrangement, of which I gave you a lengthy description last week, has worked to a charm, and it is the universal testimony that in no previous engagement has the medical work been performed so speedily and successfully.

While at GIBBONS' Division Hospital, Capt. JOHN RIPLEY, of Co. I, Twelfth Massachusetts, expired after much suffering. JOHN MALONE, another brave spirit, has gone to his last home. This young hero was a member of the Ninth New-York State Militia, from your City. After the brigade to which his regiment belonged was withdrawn from the fight on Saturday, he requested to "go in" again with a fresh brigade. It was while doing so that he received the wound which rendered the amputation of his leg necessary, and from the effects of which he expired to-day. Dr. NOYDQUIST did all in his power to save the boy, but human skill availed not. J.

The Army not Going into Winter Quarters—A Probable Speedy Movement in Some Direction.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING OF ARMY, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1862.

Now that the public desire for a great battle has been realized, the question naturally rises to every one's lips: Is the army of the Potomac going into Winter quarters?

The Army of the Potomac is not going into Winter quarters. Though operations in front may be abandoned, the troops are not to remain cooped up in Winter huts through the long weeks which intervene between now and March. A portion of the soldiers may be sent to Washington to prevent a backward movement of the enemy in that direction, while the remainder are shipped southward to commence operations anew on the Peninsula. Perhaps it may appear best to our Generals to cross the Rappahannock further down—say at Port Conway—under the protection of our gunboats, and again give battle to the enemy. Should we desire to do so, it would be, as a General remarked to me to-day, almost impossible to winter the army in this locality, owing to the scarcity of wood. The circuit of country now occupied by us, in addition to being limited, and producing a stunted growth of timber, has been pretty effectually invaded by rebel wood-choppers, who have heretofore congregated in this vicinity—BEAUREGARD, JOHNSON, and such fellows of the baser sort. Owing to the sandy formation of the soil, the roads soon dry up after the heaviest storms, so that the elements, however unfavorable they may be, will hardly prevent our locomotion. In riding around among the camps to-day, I observed that several of the regiments were constructing themselves snug quarters, in anticipation of remaining here for some time. They need the exercise to keep their blood in circulation, and banish *ennui* and "camp misery." J.

The Rebels in Strong Force in Front—Another Movement Probable.

CENTRE GRAND DIVISION, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Monday, Dec. 22, 1860.

The supposition expressed by many that the rebels are not in strong force on the Fredericksburgh side of the river, has been proven to-day to be without foundation. A reconnoissance made this morning resulted in the discovery of a large body of the enemy directly in our front; also another force a little to our right. An unlimited number of rebel tents has sprung up to view within the past two days, and not a few log huts have been built. All of the enemy's fortifications are well garrisoned.

Gen. BURNSIDE returned from Washington this evening. A rumor to the effect that Gen. BURNSIDE had resigned his position was industriously circulated throughout the camp yesterday, but failed, on account of its doubtful authenticity, to create any commotion or excitement among the troops.

What disposition is to be made of the army this Winter, it is rather difficult, from appearances, to determine. A number of Generals have arranged their headquarters in the most fastidious manner, and made every preparation for settling down into Winter quarters. The impression exists, however, that another attempt will be made soon to break the enemy's lines. WHIT.

FROM SIGEL'S RESERVE CORPS.

The Enemy Across the Rappahannock and on Our Flank—Rebel Cavalry at Brentsville and their Pickets at Summersville—Their Intentions—Our Position—Health and Spirit of the Troops—Return of Exchanged Soldiers—What They Heard and Saw in Dixie—Fort Darling—True Chivalry Not Extinct.

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH ARMY CORPS, STAFFORD COURTHOUSE, Va., Sunday, Dec. 21, 1862.

At the date of my last letter the headquarters of this corps were near Falmouth. On that day Gen. BURNSIDE decided to recross the Rappahannock and evacuate Fredericksburgh, and on the following day the bulk of the corps fell back to this place, as indicated above, where it has remained ever since, waiting patiently for something to turn up. Having marched several days to the music of the cannonading at Fredericksburgh, the officers and men naturally feel somewhat disappointed at being thus suddenly stopped in their onward march for Richmond, but they console themselves with the belief that the delay is only a temporary one, and occasioned by the "exigencies of the service," for which no one in the army, in particular, is responsible, and they submit as quietly as possible to the fate of war.

While our troops are idle at this point, the enemy is not. Information deemed reliable comes to us that HAMPTON'S Black Horse Cavalry were in Brentsville, on Thursday night last, and that he had pickets advanced toward Dumfries and Manassas Junction. To-day, we have another report, from scouts, to the effect that there is a strong cavalry picket a few miles nearly west of us at a little village known as Summerville. It need not be said that these movements of the enemy were provided for in due time, and proper means adopted to prevent surprise by a flank movement. It is not anticipated, however, that any serious demonstration will be made on our lines at this point, but it is supposed to be a reconnoissance of JACKSON in force, to ascertain the exact position of the Union army, and at the same to be prepared for any change that may be made with a view to further and immediate hostile demonstrations on our part. Notwithstanding the recent repulse, the troops in all quarters are in good spirits, and are just as ready as ever to face the enemy of their country. But the intention of the powers that be as to the future movements of this corps, are at present involved in mystery. The whole army is encamped in a thick-wooded and well-watered country—a position favorable to the comfort of the troops, and rendering them almost as safe from attack as if behind the fortifications erected for the defence of Washington. The men have so far become soldiers that they very readily adapt themselves to any circumstances by which they may be surrounded, and submit, for the most part, to whatever turns up almost without a murmur, though sometimes their privations, through the negligence or ignorance of those whose duty it is to furnish rations and forage, are enough to try the patience of an army of Jobs. The forests of pines here afford abundant means for erecting comfortable cabins, and a magical change takes place at any point where any army corp takes up quarters for 24 hours. Strange as it may seem, exposed as our troops have been at this inclement season of the year to all the necessary changes incident to marching through a hostile country, the per centage of mortality has rather diminished than increased during the last two months. The present location of the army is a healthy one—at least at this season of the year—and it is not likely that the sick list will be largely increased while we remain here.

RETURN OF EXCHANGED SOLDIERS.

The members of the Ninth New-York Cavalry, Col. SACKET, were rejoiced yesterday at the return to camp of some twenty of their companions, who were captured at Haymarket in October last, while conducting a train of provisions to Thoroughfare Gap. By some mismanagement or misfortune, we at that time lost eight teams, and had thirty odd soldiers taken prisoners. But for the fact that a portion of the rebels wore blue overcoats, as it was, our men might have destroyed the train and escaped, after seeing the immense superiority of the attacking force. The returned prisoners state that they were hurried off to Warrenton, and thence to Richmond. They were in Warrenton at the time our troops, under Gen. STAHL, advanced upon that place, a few hours after their capture; and, in their opinion, the town might have then been easily taken and the train and soldiers recaptured, as the rebels had an inferior force in every respect, and for cannon there were only two 12-pounders and 6-pound shells only were used in them. Some of these shells exploded within a few feet of the guns and killed and maimed a number of rebel soldiers. The soldiers speak in the highest terms of their treatment while prisoners—that is, they fared quite as well as their captors did, who lived mostly upon flour and bacon, and these were the only articles issued as rations. The rebels were quite inquisitive as to the number of Union troops in the field, and as to their supply of clothing and provisions, and seemed to be astonished when told that there were a plenty of troops, and clothing and provisions for them. They saw no large force of troops on their way to or in Richmond. Below Richmond they saw a fort—supposed to be Fort Darling—which they look upon as a very small affair, mounting not more than ten guns. On every hand they saw evidences of want and destitution, and all with whom they conversed expressed a strong desire to see the war terminate at once. The President's Emancipation Proclamation was everywhere alluded to as an outrage, and they could not see why it was Mr. LINCOLN desired to interfere with their slave property, for it was all the means of support they had. "What should we do," says one, "if our slaves were emancipated?" The response was a natural one: "Go to work and earn your living, as all honest men do in the Free States." But the "reb" grunted out "Oh!" as if the very idea of laboring for one's living was a most painful thought, and not to be considered for a moment.

A NICE POINT OF HONOR—TRUE CHIVALRY.

The Ninth New-York Cavalry boasts of a Lieutenant named BLY, who took a distinguished part in the recent reconnoissance to Berryville. In my account of that affair, I omitted to state one incident worthy of mention, particularly as it illustrates a nice sense of honor manifested toward an enemy by a gallant soldier, and an *esprit du corps* reflecting credit upon the officer and the branch of the service to which he is attached. In the charge upon the rebels beyond Berryville, the pursuit was kept up for several miles at a full gallop. Our men in advance used their weapons as best served their purpose, with the exception of Lieut. BLY, who only used his sword. In one instance he pursued a rebel officer for nearly two miles. The speed of their horses was so nearly equal that Lieut. BLY could only get near enough to reach the point of his sword within about six inches of the officer's head, and it required all the stretch there was in him to do that. Each spurred their horses on at the top of their speed—one determined to escape, and the other equally determined to cut him down. Thus they rushed on, over hills and through valleys, streams and mud-holes, Lieut. BLY occasionally making an unsuccessful cut with his sword, and expressing his disgust each time, in the most emphatic terms imaginable, that his weapon was not six inches longer, the rebel officer all the time dodging and twisting, and spurring on his horse. The road had been made soft by the melting of a small covering of snow that had fallen the night before. The mud and water was scattered by the horses in every direction, covering man and beast and everything else near. Eventually all of our advance reined up except Lieut. BLY; he continued the pursuit of his man, and the last seen of him for some time was a streak of mud and water. The chase proved bootless—the Lieutenant's horse gave out. As he returned to the advance some one cried out: "Why in the d—l didn't you shoot the fellow?" To which he replied: "Why, I did not have the heart to do it!" Who can say after this that true chivalry has become extinct?

The Second Maine Battery at Fredericksburgh—A Note from the Captain.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I notice a report in the Washington *Morning Chronicle*, of the 18th inst., copied from you, of some proceedings of my battery during the engagement of the 13th inst., which being somewhat incorrect, I beg to make the following statement.

In speaking of our retiring, it would appear, as reported, that my whole battery was left upon the field, which was not the case.

But one gun was abandoned, and that after five of its horses had been shot.

The report also says twelve men of the Sixteenth Regiment Maine Volunteers volunteered to assist me in recovering this gun. There was but one man of said regiment accompanied me in the undertaking, and he had been on duty with the battery for two months. Sergts. STUBBS and BERRY, Corp. GREELY, and Privates SKILLINGS and CORHAULEN, of the battery, composed the party, together with Private JENNINGS, of the Sixteenth Maine Regiment, who returned with me to the field and recovered *our abandoned piece.*

JAMES A. HALL, Captain, Second Maine Battery.

HEADQUARTERS, KING GEORGE COUNTY, Dec. 19, 1862

Marine Disaster.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Wednesday, Dec. 24.

The schooner *Nancy J. Brayton*, of Providence, LAWSON, from New-York for Philadelphia, with 170 tons of "gas coal," was cut through by ice in the Delaware Bay, on the 22d inst., and sunk.

THE McDOWELL COURT OF INQUIRY.

Cross-Examination of Gen. Sigel by Gen. McDowell.

Gen. Sigel's Reasons for his Opinion of Gen. McDowell.

From our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1862.

To-day was the twenty-eighth session of the McDowell Court of Inquiry. Present—Gen. CADWALLADER, President; Gens. Martindale and Van Alen, members; Col. Pelowze, Recorder; Gen. McDowell and Gen. Franz Sigel.

The Recorder read the proceedings of the previous day, when Gen. Sigel corrected his testimony by saying that he was in error in testifying that he did not know where Gen. Kearny's and Gen. Hooker's troops were, as his subsequent testimony would show. The examination of Gen. Sigel on the part of the Government was declared closed, and the cross-examination of Gen. Sigel by Gen. McDowell commenced.

Question—You say that after the battle of Bull Run, you were induced by a remark of Gen. McDowell, made to your Aid-de-Camp, to refuse to have any further intercourse with Gen. McDowell, &c. Was this official remark the single and only cause of your so refusing?

Answer—It was not, but it was the principal cause.

Q.—Please state the other causes.

A.—Although I did regard this matter as private, which I will now bring before the Court, and which I did avoid to mention, as I thought that some understanding hereafter would take place between Gen. McDowell and myself in a private way, I will mention it. When on the march from Gainsville to Manassas I sent Capt. Asmussen, one of my Staff officers, back to Gen. McDowell to report to him some matters with regard to our march, and to see whether he could not find out something relative to the firing on our left. Capt. Asmussen came back and reported to me that Gen. McDowell seemed very much irritated, and used in the presence of his Staff officers expressions which seemed to him improper. This report in regard to the behavior of Gen. McDowell Capt. Asmussen gave to me privately. This was the cause which I bring before the Court. I have nothing to say about this matter further, as I do not believe that they are of importance in regard to our operations. I must say, further, that these two causes—one mentioned before, and the latter mentioned to-day—did influence my mind, and brought me to the remark I made about Gen. McDowell.

Gen. McDowell insisted that the witness should state whether the causes given were the only causes, and that if they were not the only causes that the witness should state what other causes existed for his refusing, &c. The Court decided that the witness should answer as proposed by Gen. McDowell.

Gen. Siegel—I say yes, that this is the only additional cause which induced my private remark about Gen. McDowell.

The witness refers in his last answer to unimportant matters not in his judgment bearing upon our operations, but which he refers to in connections with a question as to the cause of his refusing private conversation with Gen. McDowell. Were such matters such as to irritate and influence the witness towards Gen. McDowell? If so, will the witness please state them? A.—There was no point in my whole communication with Gen. McDowell which I can say irritated me, but, I regarded the expressions used by Gen. McDowell toward two of my staff-officers as a personal insult to me, and therefore, I thought that it was due to my honor to make him understand that I felt this insult, or impropriety of conduct towards a general officer, all matters of a military character which may have influenced my judgement in regard to Gen. McDowell as a commanding officer, I do not believe, bearing to this personal affair.

On some discussion as to whether Gen. Sigel had fully answered the question, the Court was cleared for deliberation—Gen. McDowell stating that the object of the question was to show the bias of the witness.

At the reopening of the Court, it was announced that the Court had decided that the witness should state whether there were or were not any other incidents which irritated or influenced his feelings against Gen. McDowell, than those already named by him. The witness could answer yes or no.

Gen. Sigel stated to the Court, that the expression "irritated or influenced against Gen. McDowell," made the question one that he could not answer. He would prefer that the Court would ask whether some other reasons existed which influenced his judgment in regard to Gen. McDowell, as an officer.

The Court instructed the witness that Gen. McDowell was entitled to an answer directly to the question put.

Gen. Sigel then answered, "Yes. Sir"—(in response to the question by the Court.)

Q.—What were those causes of bias in your mind?

A.—I stated two reasons which I regard as personal. I will now state some reasons which induced me to believe that Gen. McDowell did not like to cooperate with me, or me with him. These reasons formed my judgment in regard to the military character of Gen. McDowell at that time, when we were operating together; but I have given to this judgment a proper expression when I said that I did not think Gen. McDowell a traitor. As there are many things in military operations which cannot be explained fully, unless we know all the circumstances connected with them, I will now give the different instances which were occupying my mind both before and after the operations with Gen. McDowell. I hope the Court will allow me to state these instances in their chronological order, and as short as possible.

First—When I was at Winchester, and Gen. Fremont at Mount Jackson and Port Republic, I could not perceive why the corps of Gen. McDowell did not assist better the troops under Gen. Fremont, and that Jackson was allowed to overcome Gen. Shields and go to Richmond to fight against Gen. McClellan.

Second—When our troops had arrived at Culpepper, on the day of the battle of Cedar Mountain, after a march of one day and one night, and were unable to march seven miles further to assist Gen. Banks. I was of the opinion that Gen. McDowell's troops were at Culpepper before, and I did not understand why they did not assist Gen. Banks on that day, and why he had to fight alone with 9,000 men against 25,000, the battle resulting almost in the destruction of Gen. Banks' Corps. I thought also that Gen. Pope and Gen. McDowell must have been informed of the strength of Gen. Jackson, as I had sent a letter to Gen. Pope from Madison Court-House to Sperryville, stating that Jackson was advancing against Culpepper, with 25,000 men.

Third—When at Waterloo Bridge, I was under the supposition that Gen. McDowell would support my corps, at least protect my right wing according to the letter received from Gen. Pope. As this was not done, and as Gen. Roberts, Chief of Staff of Gen. Pope, had expressly told me that the cavalry of Gen. McDowell would be on my right, and as I, under this supposition, sent away nearly my whole cavalry to Sulphur Springs, exposing thereby my own position, and as I afterwards found out that this cavalry was four or five miles behind me, and was not on my right, I thought that something must be wrong in this matter, either by neglect or otherwise.

Fourth—I have already stated in my evidence matters in regard to the movement of Gen. McDowell's troops, which I also could not well explain to myself. These circumstances, in connection with the old remembrances of Fredericksburgh and the first battle of Bull Run, did not contribute to give me full and undivided confidence in Maj.-Gen. McDowell. But I must also declare that this is only an individual opinion, which I never and under no circumstances have proclaimed and defended publicly, for the simple reason that I have not the due knowledge of all these matters, in their connection with the higher authorities, as I have not to this day read an official report which could give me satisfaction. I was never irritated against Gen. McDowell, and maintained, in private conversation with my friends, that I was not and would not like to belong to that class of men who take the misfortune of a man as treason or intentional malignity, and that the people are ordinarily more led by sudden impressions in regard to military operations, than by a clear understanding of the case. I can, perhaps, if necessary, bring the proof of these my feelings. I have to add as a proof of this, that under no circumstances have I regretted to hold communication with Gen. McDowell, or to execute all orders.

Q.—Will the witness please explain what he means by "Fredericksburgh" which he refers to as a cause of bias, and what by the words "political character" as connected with Gen. McDowell?

A.—In regard to Fredericksburgh I mean that Gen. McDowell was at one time at Fredericksburgh according to my knowledge when Gen. McClellan was near Richmond. It was said that Gen. McDowell should have assisted Gen. McClellan in his operations against Richmond, and I did never hear for what reason that was not done. Under "political character," I mean that if I thought all his military acts as intentional—he could be called a traitor to his country, but as I have no proof of such intention, I do not regard him as a traitor. This is why I spoke about his political character.

Q.—You have stated that the order from Gen. Pope attached your corps to the corps of Gen McDowell after the engagements at Freeman's Ford, Sulphur Springs and Waterloo, and that you regarded yourself under his orders until after the battle of Bull Run. Have you not stated in your official report, of Sept. 16, 1862, of the operations of your corps of the late campaign in Virginia, that you were under Gen. McDowell's command from the time of your arrival at Waterloo?

A.—Now, I must say, what I have given in evidence, that I was not certain as to the time when I was ordered to report to Gen. McDowell. I have stated as much as I know. In writing my official report I did.

The Court—The question is, have you made such a report?

A—It may be that I have received the order at Waterloo Bridge. I do not remember whether I made such a statement in my official report. I am not certain. What I have said in my official report I thought was true.

Q.—You have stated, in regard to the connection between your corps and that of Gen. McDowell, that Gen. Pope wrote to you that Gen. McDowell would support you at Waterloo Bridge, but that you did not see any troops of Gen. McDowell there for some miles from that point. What day was this, and how far were these troops of Gen. McDowell from Waterloo at the time to which you refer?

A.—I believe I received a dispatch from Gen. Pope on the 24th at Sulphur Springs, or on the 25th at Waterloo Bridge. On these two days I supposed that the troops of Gen. McDowell were at Warrenton, not more than ten miles; and on the 25th a brigade of cavalry was between Warrenton and Waterloo Bridge.

Q.—With reference to the connection of the first and third corps at Waterloo, as related by you, have you not stated in your official report, which has appeared in the public papers, that when you retreated, under cover of the night of the 25th of August, from Waterloo to Warrenton, that there were no troops within eight or ten miles of you, except the cavalry of Gen. Buford?

A.—Certainly, that I have stated; but whether it was the cavalry of Gen. Buford, or the cavalry of Gen. Bayard, that I cannot say.

Q.—Did you not know, and were you not informed, that there was a division of Gen. McDowell's Corps between you and Warrenton, and did not Gen. Roberts report to you that Gen. Rickett's Division would support you. This on the occasion of your retreat from Waterloo Bridge, or preceding that retreat?

A.—I am not aware of that, because I had sent three or four times during the day, officers and mounted orderlies from Waterloo Bridge to Warrenton, to see if any troops were on the road. They did not find any, or at least so reported to me. I must, however, state that I personally did not take the direct road from Waterloo Bridge to Warrenton that night of the 25th. This road was taken by the division of Gen. Schurz and the brigade of Gen. Milroy. I marched with Gen. Schenck's Division across the fields to strike the Warrenton Turnpike. Arrived at the joining point, or crossing point of the roads, I let pass all my troops toward Warrenton, and waited for the rear guard of Gen. Milroy. As soon as they had arrived I rode to Warrenton. I did see no troops on my way, except a large wagon train, which was said to belong to the cavalry. I did see no troops of Gen. McDowell's. Gen. Roberts told me that I would be supported, but I do not know whether he spoke about Gen. Ricketts' Division. I told him that I hoped that at least the cavalry would come on my right.

Q.—You stated that at Waterloo Bridge, on that same day you arrived there, you received an order, through Gen. McDowell, one page of which was missing, so that you did not know what your orders were. Did you not state in your official dispatch that you received that order or dispatch *from* Gen. McDowell? Tell where that order or dispatch was written, by whom signed, and to what it seemed to relate, and in what way and to what extent Gen. McDowell was connected in it otherwise than to furnish the means of its being transmitted to you.

A.—As much as I remember I received the order through Gen. McDowell, and I really do not know whether it was signed by Gen. McDowell or Gen. Pope, or one of their officers, or whether it was signed at all. My impression is that it was signed, and I believe by a staff officer of Gen. Pope. I do not know whether the order was written at Warrenton or Warrenton Junction. As I was greatly surprised and embarrassed, I showed the order immediately to Gen. Schenck, as I did not like to take alone the responsibility, and with the intention to have shown him in what form I had received the papers. These papers consisted of two sheets of yellow paper. One of the papers was addressed to Gen. Banks, and was finished. In this paper Gen. Banks was asked why he did not send any information, or that he should send information. The other sheet contained only a few lines, with no address, and no commencing lines or introduction. Something was said about my pontoon train, so that myself and Gen. Schenck were of the opinion that this was the end of an order—that one sheet was missing which must have contained the principal points. I sent this order as it was to Gen. Banks to hear what was his opinion about my movements, whilst I also sent to Gen. McDowell at Warrenton and to Gen. Pope, to receive an explanation. The officer who was sent there came back in the evening, and said to me that he could not get any instructions from Gen. McDowell, and that he could not find Gen. Pope. The officer's name was, as I remember, Major Fish, in the Staff of Gen. Schenck; whether he brought me the final order from Gen. Pope to march to Warrenton I cannot say with certainty. I think it was a thin paper like this shown me (manifold paper; I did not go into an investigation of the paper; I am almost sure that it was thin paper.

Q.—You state that you received at the entrance to the town of Warrenton a dispatch from an officer of Gen. McDowell, in which it was said that you should force with your corps the passage at Waterloo Bridge, that same morning. State as far as you know, what connection Gen. McDowell had with that dispatch other than that the officer who carried it to you was on his Staff. A.—I do not know; I do not know that he had any connection with it, except that his officer brought it to me; I did not ask him.

Q.—Is the witness to be understood as he has stated that he received an order from Gen. Pope that his corps should march from Waterloo Bridge to Warrenton in the night; that the order was received before the troops had commenced to march, and that it was in obedience to this order of Gen. Pope that witness marched his corps in the night from Waterloo to Warrenton, as is stated in his official report? Will the witness please state if the order was written or verbal?

A.—The order certainly was written and directed me to march to Warrenton; when I received the order I made my preparations to evacuate my position, and march to Fayetville, because I thought from the reference in the paper that I would find my pontoon train at Fayetville; I thought that the programme was taken up and that I was to march to Fayetville, and that my first order of which I did not receive the whole was for me to march to Fayetville.

Gen. McDowell stated that he desired an explicit answer to the question, and that the explanations, if any, should come afterward. The Court so instructed the witness, and the witness proceeded.

During these preparations, and when my corps had not yet left the position, I received the order from Gen. Pope. It was not dark when I received this order, and it was perfectly dark when my first troops marched off from the field. Whether it was said that I should march at night or not, I cannot well remember. I thought only that it was necessary under the circumstances to march as soon as possible, because I thought we would have a battle near Warrenton, as I really thought that my position was exposed, the enemy having already flanked it.

The Court adjourned till to-morrow at 11 A. M.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

In the McDowell Court of Inquiry, to-day, the cross-examination of Gen. SIGEL was continued. He stated that he had never received any definite propositions from Gen. McDOWELL concerning the defence of Thoroughfare Gap, and had known nothing of a division said to have been sent him whilst resting at Waterloo Bridge by Gen. McDOWELL. He was aware of no preparations by Gen. McDOWELL to meet the enemy at Thoroughfare Gap, though, being asked if anything looking to such an end had been provided in General Order No. 10, he replied that it had.

The Court adjourned till Friday.

Large Fire in Boston.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

The large granite block of stores in Pearl-street, known as the Athenæum Block, was badly damaged by fire last night.

Nos. 83, 85 and 87 were occupied by L. S. JONES, dealer in boots and leather, UNDERWOOD, WALKER & Co., boots and shoes. All the four floors of this part of the block were thoroughly burned out, and the several stocks destroyed.

Numbers 89 and 91 were occupied by JAMES H. WHEELER & Co., on the first floor, and SHAW & CHILD, and WM. AMES & Co., above. The two upper stories of this part of the block and rear part of the third story, were partially burnt, while the store of Mr. WHEELER was thoroughly flooded with water.

Messrs. COCHRANE, KIMBALL, DIMICK and WILLIAM CLAFLIN, at No. 83, had a portion of their stocks damaged by water.

The flames communicated to the attic and roof of No. 91, but were got under without serious damage to the building.

The loss is estimated at from $60,000 to $70,000, mostly insured.

IMPORTANT FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

THE ARRIVAL THERE OF GEN. FOSTER.

Return of his Expedition to Newbern.

FORTRESS MONROE, Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Gen. FOSTER arrived at Fortress Monroe this morning. After leaving Kinston his forces took Goldsboro without much loss, tearing up the railroad, burning the ties, and destroying the rails so they cannot be used again, and also destroyed the telegraph. The forces have returned to Newbern in safety.

The election for members of Congress from the Third District of Virginia came off yesterday. The candidates were Dr. W. W. WING, of Norfolk, and JOHN MCLEOD, of Portsmouth. The vote in these two cities was very close. The result is not yet known.

Capt. JAMES BARNES, of the Twenty-first New-York Artillery, fell through the hatchway of the transport *Lucinda* (lying in Hampton Roads) last night, fracturing his skull. He is now in the post hospital insensible.

J. C. JONES, who was reported captured by the rebels, has returned to Fort Monroe. It was J. D. JONES who had the trouble which caused the false rumor.

GEN. FOSTER'S OPERATIONS.

From the Newbern Progress, Dec. 18.

On the morning of the 11th inst., Maj.-Gen. FOSTER left Newbern with an adequate and well-appointed force, and proceeded toward Goldsboro.

An inconsiderable skirmish occurred at Trenton at noon on Friday, in which Capt. MORRELL, Co. B, Third New-York Cavalry, charged upon and put to flight a body of rebel cavalry and two companies of infantry. The advance reached Southwest Creek, the bridge across which had been destroyed, at 11 o'clock A. M. The Ninth New-Jersey made a detour through the woods, crossing the creek at a point above, and seized the rebel battery stationed in the middle of the road on the opposite side of the stream. Capt. CHESNEY, Co. A, first reaching the guns. At about dusk the rebel advance, some two thousand strong, made another stand about four miles this side of Kinston. The Ninth New-Jersey and MORRISON'S Battery were sent up to feel their position, and engaged them briskly for some thirty minutes, when the enemy fell back again. Our forces then bivouacked for the night.

Sunday morning, the 14th, the main army coming up at about 9 o'clock, our advance—the Ninth New-Jersey and MORRISON'S Battery—moved on about a mile, when a general engagement with the enemy, 7,000 strong, commenced, continuing from 10½ A. M. to 2 P. M., when the enemy, who were closely pressed, retreated over the long bridge across the Neuse River, and our army victoriously entered Kinston. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing will not exceed 150. Among the killed was Col. GRAY, of the Ninety-sixth New-York, who fell at the head of his regiment, while leading a successful charge. Capt. WELLS and Lieut. PERKINS, of the Tenth Connecticut, were also killed. Loss of the enemy not definitely ascertained. We took upward of 500 prisoners, among whom were two Colonels and several other officers, and eleven pieces of artillery, besides other captures. Col. HECKMAN, Ninth New-Jersey, and Col. HUNT, Ninety-second New-York, are to be recommended for promotion to Brigadier-Generalships, for distinguished gallantry.

The strategy of Gen. FOSTER in the conduct of the expedition was most masterly and thoroughly successful. Our troops fought well, without exception. They were greatly elated, and clamorous to be led on Raleigh.

The rebels felled trees across the road, and burnt bridges, in order to delay the progress of our forces; but the efficiency and skill of H. W. WILSON, the Civil Engineer of the Department, with his well-trained corps of mechanics, soon overcame these obstacles and kept the army in motion. The situation of the ground upon which the battle was fought was such as to render it very difficult to bring any considerable body of troops into action. The rebels having the opportunity to select the battle-ground, of course had decidedly the advantage in position.

The Tenth Connecticut sustained a heavier loss than any other regiment engaged, and deserve especial notice for valor and good discipline. They brilliantly maintained the reputation won in former well-fought battles. The Third Brigade, Gen. PARK'S Division, Gen. H. W. WESSELL commanding, which was sent down to accompany this expedition, effectively supported the advance, and materially contributed to the success of the movement. Gen. FOSTER earnestly desires that these veteran troops be retained in this Department.

The new Massachusetts regiments engaged displayed great coolness and courage under fire. Little Rhody, BURNSIDE'S State, was well represented by the Fifth Rhode Island Regiment.

Company K, 3d New-York Cavalry, Captain COLE, charged across four deep ditches, eight feet wide, and took seven pieces of rebel artillery and brought them off in triumph, smoking hot.

Gen. FOSTER gives Capt. JAMES C. SLAGHT, Chief Quartermaster of the Department, high praise for the ample arrangements made for transportation and the vigor and promptness with which it was brought up, and to this fact the celerity of the movement is in a great measure attributed.

Col. LEDLIE, 3d New-York Artillery, Acting Brigadier General, handled his batteries with great efficiency and skill, and will, we understand, be promoted also.

Gen. FOSTER defeated the expectations of the rebels in every particular.

As we go to press we learn that Goldsboro' and Weldon have fallen, and that our victorious armies are still in motion.

THE REBELS THREATENING KENTUCKY.

Rumored Raid of Floyd and Humphrey Marshall Through Pound Gap.

THE MOVEMENT TOWARD COLUMBUS.

CINCINNATI, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Advices from Lexington, Ky., report fears of a rebel raid by Gens. FLOYD and HUMPHREY MARSHALL, who are advancing in large force from Western Virginia, through Pound Gap.

A movement of our troops has taken place from Richmond, Ky., that will relieve Eastern Kentucky of this new rebel invasion.

THE THREATENED ATTACK ON COLUMBUS.

ST. LOUIS, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Advices have been received from Gen. CURTIS, from Brig.-Gen. DAVIES, commanding at Columbus, Ky., to the effect that he is receiving reinforcements in ample season to prepare against the contingencies of an attack upon that place by the rebels. Gen. DAVIES thinks, however, no attack is meditated by them.

As to the injury said to have been done the railroad by the rebels, Gen. DAVIES has not yet fully ascertained the extent of it, but expects, whatever it may be, to repair it at once.

Obituary.

—Hon. J

THE PENINSULAR CAMPAIGN.

The Prince de Joinville's History of Gen. McClellan's Campaign.

In a former notice of the Prince DE JOINVILLE's historical sketch of the campaign of the Army of the Potomac—[See NEW-YORK TIMES Nov. 29]—we followed his narrative to the date of Gen. McCLELLAN's embarkation for the Peninsula, on the 9th of March, 1862, in pursuance of the plan he had formed in October of the previous year, but which he had pondered in "secresy and silence" during the whole of the intervening Winter. According to the Prince's statement, this plan was to avail himself of the water approaches and to throw his whole army suddenly upon the rebel capital. The enemy evacuated Manassas in his front on receiving through treachery, (as the Prince believes, though without any just ground so far as we can see,) information of this scheme. McCLELLAN spent a week in a sham pursuit of their retreating force—going no further, however, than to the most advanced position they had occupied—and then devoted himself to the embarkation of his army,—for which, however, very inadequate preparations had been made.

On the 8th of March, the very day of the evacuation of Manassas, the *Merrimac* came out from Norfolk, disabled our fleet at Hampton Roads, and in spite of the *Monitor*, completely blockaded the James River, and, according to the Prince's assertion, also "*kept paralyzed in Hampton Roads the naval forces assembled to join the land army*, which was landing at Fortress Monroe, *in the attack upon Yorktown*." If this is true,—if the *Merrimac*, by the terror she inspired, did actually prevent the movement of our gunboats up the York River, as well as blockade the James, Commodore GOLDSBOROUGH, who commanded our squadron in Hampton Roads, ought to have been instantly superseded, and put upon his trial for cowardice or incapacity, or both. There is abundant reason for believing that, if proper energy had presided over our naval operations at that moment, the *Merrimac* could have been sunk and the James River opened to our gunboats and to McCLELLAN's army. The Prince DE JOINVILLE does not hesitate to say "I am perfectly satisfied that if the *Merrimac* had ventured into the deep water, beyond the shoals which obstruct the entrance to the James and Elizabeth, where her adversaries could get way upon them, *she would have gone down in a few moments*;" and the *Monitor* could easily have forced her into such a position. But "paralysis" presided over the squadron in Hampton Roads; neither the James nor the York River was open to us, and Gen. McCLELLAN landed his army at Fortress Monroe, and marching by land up the Peninsula, was arrested by the cannon on the works at Yorktown. A few gunboats, going up the York River, had found it guarded by some forty pieces of heavy calibre. The naval officers "*concluded* that they could not pass this battery—the investment of the place by water must consequently be abandoned." No adequate attempt was made to test this point; the rebel fire from this water battery was partially drawn but once: in point of fact, as it proved afterward, not a dozen guns were mounted upon it:—the "conclusion" of the naval officers,—based upon nothing but conjecture, was accepted as final, and the coöperation of our gunboats was abandoned. If Com. FARRAGUT, who thought the two formidable forts below New-Orleans *could* be passed, had been at Yorktown, we should have had a different "conclusion."

But Gen. McCLELLAN marched up by land. He came upon a series of works stretching across the Peninsula at the edge of a marshy stream called Warwick Creek, which was found impassable by infantry. "Throughout the seven miles of the Confederate lines," says the Prince, "we encountered the same attitude of alert defence. Everywhere cannon and camps. Of course the inference was that we were arrested by forces apparently formidable, and before a position not easily to be carried." *How* formidable the rebel forces, were Gen. McCLELLAN did not know. The Prince notes, as a singular feature of the war, the "complete absence of all information in regard to the country and the position of the enemy—the total ignorance under which they labored in regard to his movements and the number of his troops." The usual mode of obtaining such information is by reconnoissances in force,—by pushing forward bodies strong enough to penetrate the enemy's lines and ascertain his strength, and then, if necessary, to withdraw. But for some reason or other this method does not seem to have been resorted to in a single instance. Gen. McCLELLAN relied on other means of accomplishing the desired result.

The Prince says that Gen. McCLELLAN had foreseen the difficulty of taking Yorktown, and had provided for it. He thus sets forth the plan and the reason of its failure:

"In order to gain time, and avoid the tedium of a siege, Gen. McCLELLAN had thought out the means of turning the position. The enemy held the James, with the *Merrimac* and his gunboats; the York was closed by the Yorktown and Gloucester Point batteries. Nevertheless, *by a disembarkation on the Severn, beyond Gloucester, we might carry the latter position* and open the way of the Federal gunboats into the river York. A subsequent movement up the left bank, in the direction of West Point, would put us so far in the rear of the army charged with the defence of the lines of Yorktown, that it would have been in a most perilous position. This accomplished, the Confederates must have abandoned Gloucester, and fallen back hastily upon Richmond. The execution of this *coup de main* had been left to a corps of the army commanded by Gen. McDOWELL. This corps was to be the last to embark at Washington, and it was calculated that it ought to reach Yorktown [the rear of Gloucester?] in a body on its transports at the moment when the rest of the army, moving by land, should appear before that post from Fortress Monroe.

Instead of finding it, we received the inexplicable and as yet unexplained intelligence that this corps, 35,000 strong, had been sent to another destination. The news was received in the army with stupefaction, although the majority could not foresee the deplorable consequences of a step taken, it must be supposed, with no evil intention, but certainly with inconceivable recklessness. Fifteen days before, this measure, although it must always have been injurious, would have been much less so. We might have made arrangements upon a new basis. Taken when it was, it deranged a whole system of machinery fairly at work. Among the divisions of McDOWELL's corps, there was one, that of FRANKLIN, which was more regretted than all the others, as well on account of the troops themselves, as of their commanders. The General-in-Chief had bestowed special pains on its organization during the Winter, and earnestly demanded its restoration. It was sent back to him without a word of explanation, precisely as it had been detached from him. This fine division, 11,000 strong, arrived, and *for a moment the General thought of intrusting to it alone the Gloucester expedition. But this intention was renounced.*"

Why this intention was renounced the Prince does not inform us. Gen. FRANKLIN's Division was unquestionably strong enough to have taken Gloucester, which was never held by over 5,000 of the rebels, and which could not have been reinforced without weakening Yorktown. And its movement toward West Point would have had precisely the effect which was expected from the similar movement assigned to McDOWELL. The enemy would have been menaced by a strong force in his rear,—a force exposed to no danger, as it was protected by the York River, which the rebels had no means of crossing, and by our gunboats which could at once have pushed forward to its aid. The plan of Gen. McCLELLAN does not seem to have contemplated any severe fighting for McDOWELL's Corps. The purpose of his movement upon the rear of the enemy was to force him to "fall back hastily upon Richmond." And we see no reason why Gen. FRANKLIN's Division would not have been sufficient for this, or why, if necessary, it could not have been very considerably strengthened by detachments from the very large force of Gen. McCLELLAN himself.

Gen. McCLELLAN's partisans have hitherto thought him completely relieved from all responsibility for the failure sooner to capture Yorktown, by the fact that McDOWELL's Corps was not sent to his aid as he had expected it would be. Whether the Government acted wisely or not in withholding this corps, is a question we need not now discuss. Its solution turns upon a question of fact, concerning which the evidence is not yet complete. Gen. McCLELLAN has testified recently that when he embarked for the Peninsula he left Washington protected by 75,000 men: while on the other hand it is asserted that there were not more than 25,000 available for that purpose. The Government, whether rightly or not, deemed the Capital unsafe, and withheld 24,000 of McDOWELL's troops for the purpose of covering it. The remainder, under FRANKLIN, were sent to the Peninsula; and Gen. McCLELLAN, according to the Prince DE JOINVILLE, at first thought of intrusting to them the turning of Gloucester, and the advance up the York as a menace to the rear of the enemy, which was holding Yorktown. We wish the Prince had favored us with the reasons which induced Gen. McCLELLAN to *renounce* this excellent intention, almost as soon as it was formed.

No wise General who has any confidence in his own resources will ever consider himself restricted to a single method of accomplishing a desired result. When one plan fails he seeks another. When the Government withheld McDOWELL, it was Gen. McCLELLAN's duty to devise some scheme for taking Yorktown without him. He did so. His first plan was to commit the turning of Gloucester to FRANKLIN: but this was "renounced." His next is thus described by the Prince DE JOINVILLE:

"Then came the reflection, that somewhere in these seven miles of Confederate intrenchments, *there must be a weak spot.* Could this spot be found *and forced*, the usual result in such cases would probably come to pass. The enemy at either extremity would suppose themselves to have been turned, and would become demoralized. If we then continued to pour a constantly increasing force of our troops through the opening thus made, we *would probably inflict upon the army thus cut in two one of those disasters which settle the fate of a campaign.* This weak point, it was supposed, had been found near the centre of the lines of Warwick Creek, at a place called Lee's Mill. The bottom here was firm, the water waist deep. In front of the hostile works was a kind of open plateau upon which a strong artillery force might be brought up to shatter them. On the 16th of April, an attempt was made at this point. Eighteen field-pieces opened fire at five hundred yards, on the Confederate batteries, and *silenced them*, and the creek was then passed *by some Vermont companies.*

They advanced gallantly, carried a rifle-pit, but their ammunition had been wetted in passing the stream; *they were not supported*, and retired after losing many of their number. *The project thus began was, no doubt, found to present unforeseen difficulties, and it was at once abandoned.*

This operation, like that against Gloucester, *not being feasible*, we were forced to undertake the siege of the uninvested fortifications of Yorktown."

We regard this as a very important passage in the history of this campaign. It assigns a motive for a movement which attracted general attention at the time it was made, the meaning of which, however, we have never before seen disclosed. Instead of being a mere skirmish intended, as was supposed at the time, to silence a troublesome battery, the attack at Lee's Mill was really the initial step of a general assault upon the rebel lines.

The design attributed to Gen. McCLELLAN by the Prince DE JOINVILLE seems to have been a good one, and up to a certain point it seems to have been well executed. He sought for a *weak spot* in a line of entrenchments seven miles long, and found it. His intention was to *force it*,—to pour rapidly heavy bodies of troops through the gap,—turn each wing of the enemy, and thus "inflict upon him one of those disasters which settle the fate of a campaign." The calculation was just, and everything seemed favorable to the execution of the plan. Lee's Mill was the "weak spot" selected for the trial. Eighteen field-pieces "silenced" the opposing batteries, and "*some Vermont companies*" were pushed across the creek, carried a rifle-pit, and thus prepared the way, with complete success, for the grand movement of a solid force through the opening which had just been made. But that grand movement was not even attempted! The Vermont companies, says the Prince, "*were not supported and retired.*" "The project was, *no doubt*, found to present unforeseen difficulties, and it was at once *abandoned*." What were these difficulties? What reason has the Prince for supposing that any such difficulties existed? Everything had succeeded as completely as Gen. McCLELLAN himself could wish. So far as appears, the project was proved to be perfectly feasible; and if Gen. McCLELLAN had poured a "constantly increasing force of our troops through the opening thus made," as he originally intended to do, it seems to have been reasonably certain that he would have completely turned their flank, and been able to assail them with overwhelming success in rear of their intrenchments. Why was this not done? Why did Gen. McCLELLAN so suddenly abandon a plan which he had himself conceived, which contained all the elements of success, and which he had begun to put into successful execution?

We know not where to seek an answer to this question. No official reports exist, none certainly have reached the public, which throw any light upon it. The Prince DE JOINVILLE, who received, perhaps, more of Gen. McCLELLAN's confidential explanations than any other man, is forced to assume that reasons existed, of which, he seems, however, to have been utterly ignorant. Are we to seek these reasons in a peculiarity of Gen. McCLELLAN's character—in the fact that, while he displays great ability in planning a campaign, and in aiming blows at the enemy, when the moment for putting his designs into execution arrives, a feeling of self-distrust—a fear of failure—a shrinking from the responsibility of possible disaster, arrests his uplifted hand, and makes all his plans abortive?

Two well-devised plans for taking Yorktown were thus abandoned—without even an earnest and resolute attempt to execute them. All that remained was a siege, and to that Gen. McCLELLAN next addressed himself. The Prince does full justice to the energy, the skill, the persevering patience with which our troops prosecuted this protracted labor, though he seems to us very considerably to overstate the opposition which they encountered from the enemy. When he says that "the defenders kept up on all that they saw or suspected, a tremendous fire,"—that "the shells from the rifled guns flew in all directions,"—and that "the accuracy of their fire forced us to abandon all the signal posts we had established in the tops of the tallest trees," his statements lack the corroboration of others, who had equal facilities for observation. Indeed, it was noted as one of the most curious features of the siege, that the besiegers suffered so little interruption in their work at the hands of the enemy; and there were not wanting those who based upon that circumstance the belief that the enemy did not intend to make any formidable resistance at Yorktown. Thus the Editor of the TIMES wrote from the camp on Wednesday—four days before the evacuation:

"Why the rebels permit our works thus to be carried on under their noses, *with scarcely an attempt at interruption*, excites a good deal of comment and speculation. It certainly is something very unusual. While the Allies were carrying their approaches toward Sebastopol, *sorties* in great force took place nightly, and were often attended with very heavy loss. Indeed, usually in a siege, the heaviest of the fighting takes place in the trenches; when they are completed, the work is nearly done. Many infer from the quiet of the rebels that they do not mean really to contest the place, *but that as soon as the assault commences, they will withdraw. I confess I cannot help thinking so myself.*"

Gen. McCLELLAN, upon whom this view of the case was more than once warmly pressed, thought differently. He did not believe there was any position between there and Richmond where the rebels could make so good a defence as at Yorktown; and he, therefore, believed, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, that they would defend it to the last. But he was also perfectly confident of his ability to take it. He had determined not to open fire at all until all his batteries were ready, believing that a very few hours would then suffice to silence the enemy's guns. He had opened a splendid series of trenches, under cover of which he would throw his troops selected for the assault into the enemy's works, and had everything ready to follow up the victory which he did not doubt awaited him. The Prince says:

"Everything was ready for the decisive blow. Not only was a terrible bombardment to be directed against the city; not only were the choicest troops selected for the grand assault which was to follow the bombardment, but the *steam transports waited only for the signal* to pass up into the York River as soon as the place should fall, and land the forces of FRANKLIN high up on the line of the Confederate retreat. *A part of the forces were actually kept on board of the transports. In a few hours they would have passed over the distance which it would have taken the enemy two days to traverse.* Driven by storm from Yorktown, followed up step for step, intercepted on their road by fresh troops, the army of the South would have been in a very critical position, and the Federals would have found what they so greatly needed, a brilliant military success."

Thus affairs stood on Saturday, the 3d of May. The opening of the ball was fixed for Monday morning. But on Sunday morning at daybreak it was discovered by our advanced sharpshooters that the rebels had evacuated Yorktown. There was no longer any sign of an enemy there. Gen. McCLELLAN telegraphed to Washington that Yorktown was in his possession—that he had thrown all his cavalry and horse-artillery in pursuit of the rebels—that he should on *that day* (Sunday) send FRANKLIN and the gunboats to West Point, and that he should "push the enemy to the wall." Part of the army was pushed forward on that day; STONEMAN, with his cavalry and four batteries of artillery taking the lead. But "FRANKLIN and the gunboats" did *not* start for West Point until the succeeding Tuesday—after the battle of Williamsburgh, and when it was entirely too late to arrest the retreating foe. On emerging from the woods into the large open plain this side of Williamsburgh, STONEMAN came upon the rear guard of the rebels, with whom he sustained a brief and unsuccessful engagement. Next day a portion of our troops renewed the attack, and HEINTZELMAN, HOOKER and KEARNY maintained a bloody and most unequal fight for five hours, without orders or any general supervision, in the midst of the most terrible confusion of wagon trains, and marching over narrow roads leading through dense woods, and over which it was almost impossible to force an empty wagon drawn by six mules. At 5 o'clock Gen. McCLELLAN came upon the field, having, says the Prince, "been *detained at Yorktown.*" This is an error. Gen. McCLELLAN had remained at his headquarters, two miles in the rear of Yorktown, until half-past 2,—when he was summoned to the field twelve miles off, by an urgent appeal brought by Gov. SPRAGUE. He rode with his Staff, through the rain, not even stopping at Yorktown, to the scene of the engagement, and arrived just in time to see the charge of Gen. HANCOCK upon a Georgia brigade, at the extreme right of the field, where the battle had been raging since noon. The Prince says that "the success of HANCOCK had been decisive, and the reserves brought up by the General-in-Chief charging upon the field settled the affair." The General-in-Chief brought up no reserves but his Staff:—the real brunt of the battle had been borne by HOOKER and KEARNY, long before he reached the ground,—and he contributed absolutely nothing to the success of the day.

What we have further to say of this campaign we must reserve for another occasion.

THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

The Destruction of the Gunboat Cairo by a Torpedo in the Yazoo River—How the Machine was Arranged—A Large Number of Torpedoes Removed—The Way Cleared for Gen. Sherman's Expedition.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CAIRO, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1862.

The most exciting event in this Department that has occurred lately, is the blowing up of the armored gunboat *Cairo* by a torpedo, in the Yazoo River. The occurrence has not only settled the *Cairo*, but also the fact that torpedoes *will* explode—a fact which for some time has been very generally doubted.

Rebeldom has spent much money, or rather scrip, in getting up ingenious infernal machines, wherewith to stay the progress of their most formidable opponents—the gunboats. They were placed in shoals all along the Cumberland; they dotted the bosom of the romantic Tennessee; the Mississippi at Columbus, Number Ten, Vicksburgh and New-Orleans was so filled with them that navigation, even for fishes, was almost impossible; and yet, in spite of this, the gunboats of the Yankees passed among and over them with perfect impunity. Ingenious affairs were they, and costly, too—great iron things, as big as an Irishman's shanty, arranged with lines, locks and triggers, very formidable in theory, and only in practice lacking the one important quality of explosion. Snapping locks did no good—you might build a fire around one till its rivets were red-hot, and even then it would refuse to perform its intended duty; they never would go off unless carried, and thus it resulted that this magnificent system of defence adopted by the young Confederacy, proved a failure.

It could not, however, be expected that a people whose *forte* is chivalry, and whose contempt for greasy mechanics is so well known, should excel in the construction of either steam engines or torpedoes. Your true Southron can chew tobacco, drink unlimited quantities of whisky, play a tolerable game of poker, brag much on his sunny South, chivalry and hot blood, curse Yankees, handle a bowie knife, and shoot a "Fed" from out of the "bush," but he can't descend to the vulgar level of a good torpedo-builder. A renegade Yankee in Memphis planned the iron-ram *Arkansas*, and renegade Yankee mechanists taking the plan, wrought out, away up the tortuous Yazoo River, that impregnable monster, which astonished the world and Commodore DAVIS by running through the Federal fleet at Vicksburgh.

Later, the same mind turned its attention to torpedoes, with a result that does honor to its genius. A man named IVINS—originally a native of the State in whose metropolis revolves the Hub of the Universe—devised a plan which resulted in blowing through the bottom of the *Cairo* a hole so large that you might drive through it with a team of elephants.

Taking a common twelve-gallon demijohn he filled it with powder and sat it upon the end of a log of wood some three feet in length. To the lower end of this log was fastened an iron staple, in which was tied the end of a piece of strong rope. An anchor attached to this rope held the log under water, while the other end of the rope, after being passed through the eye of the anchor, was fastened to a stump ashore. In the neck of the demijohn was placed some fulminating powder, the end of a wire well roughened was inserted in this, the whole well-waxed to keep it water-tight, and then the balance of this wire was extended just below the suface of the river and fastened to something on the bank.

There was a torpedo, which cost probably, exclusive of the powder, about fifty cents, and which was as certain to explode if the wire were strained ever so little, as effect is to follow cause. Its cheapness recommended it, and in consequence the invention of Mr. IVINS was placed at once in the Yazoo river. So much for preliminaries.

Early last week the ram *Metamora*, Capt. GETTY, and the iron-clad *Cairo*, Capt. SELFRIDGE, were ordered to proceed up the Yazoo River, with a view to inspecting affairs prior to the movement of the expedition up that river. They proceeded up about seventeen miles, being shot at at intervals by guerrillas on shore, and returning the compliment with shell and canister; but in other respects meeting with no serious obstructions. When they had penetrated thus far, they came across the first of the series of obstructions organized by Mr. IVINS; and, by the aid of a couple of prisoners, were enabled to ascertain their locality and remove them without trouble. Showing nothing above the surface of the water, their detection was a matter of extreme difficulty, and could only be accomplished by watching narrowly everything on the bank with a view of find ing the rope by which they were anchored. This once found, a cut from a knife severed the rope, and instantly the torpedo would shoot to the surface, when, by careful handling, its removal was a matter of some delicacy, but no great difficulty.

Within the distance of a mile, they discovered and removed eleven of these dangerous articles. When the blow from the knife allowed them to come to the surface, they would be towed off by seamen in small boats, care being taken to handle them tenderly until the wire was found and its connection with the shore severed.

The ram *Metamora* was going slowly, followed a short distance behind by the *Cairo*. The ram passed over a torpedo, but did not explode it, as she happened to be on the side of the river to which the engine was moored. The *Cairo* became somewhat unmanageable, owing to a high wind, and instead of following in the wake of the ram, as she should have done, she was blown over toward the side opposite that taken by her leader. The result was that she ran her nose against the wire of the torpedo, which operation was followed by an explosion that crushed in the bottom of the *Cairo*, as if it had been an egg-shell. The blow was given her well forward, and did not affect her machinery to an extent that prevented it being used to run her ashore.

In just eight minutes from the time of the explosion, all that was visible of the *Cairo* were the top of her flag-staff and smoke-stacks—she lay on the bottom in thirty feet of water. So short was the time, that the officers and crew had nothing left but to jump and swim for it—not a single thing beyond what was on their persons was saved. Fortunately—it may be almost said miraculously—no lives were lost, nor was any one injured materially by the explosion. Boats were immediately lowered from the ram, and the floating, swimming crew, were picked up, and transferred to the *Metamora*. The blow was given immediately under the forecastle; had it been under the boilers, the results would have been too horrible to contemplate.

So terrific was the explosion that it drove the bottom completely in, and at the same time threw a 64-pound gun, carriage and all, completely up to the upper deck—breaking, as it did so, the heavy axletree squarely in two pieces. There were undoubtedly many other queer and astonishing operations performed, but owing to want of time they were unnoticed. Men had just time to reach a port and plunge into the river ere the *Cairo* was lying quietly on the bottom.

The smoke-stacks were torn down, and every vestige of the boat that was visible above the water was destroyed, with the view, I suppose, of concealing the catastrophe from the rebels.

In this expedition the boats penetrated within a mile and a half of the first fortifications of the rebels on the Yazoo, and succeeded in removing up to that point all obstructions, so that the passage of the troops of the present expedition will be comparatively easy.

That expedition, composed of about sixty steamers, landed with troops, and a fleet of rams and gunboats is now well under way.

In my next, I hope to be able to give you the results. GALWAY.

COTTON IN ARKANSAS.

A Temple at Helena—Its Votaries—Certain Grounds of Infidelity—Trading off Negroes for Cotton—Salt and Quinine as a Circulating Medium—Fortunes Made by the Army—Preparations for Vicksburgh.

HELENA, Ark., Thursday, Dec. 11, 1862.

In the absence, for the present, of more exciting news, it may, perhaps, be well to say something of regal cotton. After having spent months in offering inky incense to red-browed Mars, it is no more than right to pay one's duty to the white-headed monarch, to whom Manchester, Jewery, and the hungry and speculating world, generally, pine to pay allegiance.

We have a temple here, whose dimensions are none of the smallest, whose wealth is not the least, and whose attendance is not the fewest—the worship is the grandest, and glorious and golden are the rewards paid to the devotees.

Our King is rather a saint than a ruler, for men offer wealth, honor, life, integrity, everything, rather than the mere lip-allegiance of courtiers. Men boldly dare the shot-gun of the bushwhacker, the perils of water, arrest, imprisonment; the recesses of swamp, morass and bayou; in short, they dare everything and fear nothing in search of altars upon which they can offer their devotion to this saint of saints, this king of kings.

Nor, as in the case of many other allegiances or theologies, do the worshipers represent a single nationality or neighborhood. The congregation is cosmopolitan, and includes the shoulder-straps of the Major-General and Lieutenant. The pork-hating descendants of Abraham, the dull-eyed disciple of KANT and SCHLEGEL, the thin-legged son of chivalry, and the sharp-looking Yankee. Never were worshipers more devout than these; never approached pilgrim Mussulmen the sacred caaba with feelings more reverential than approached these to the hooped and hemped object of their worship.

Yet withal, there are infidels, as there are in all faiths; and perhaps I can no better illustrate the beauties of the cotton-worship than by giving an extract from the creed of one of the unbelievers. The divine precepts of Him who uttered the sermon of the mount never were more beautiful and benevolent than when contrasted with the cold, unpromising infidelities of a Paine. I will avail myself of the effectiveness of the contrast, and give the subjoined document:

"HELENA, Ark., Sept. 29, 1862.

In compliance with an official request, I make the following statement:

On the 24th of September, sixteen negroes were taken from a planter living twelve miles below Lacon, Mo., by Col. CHAS. E. HOVEY, of the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. On the 24th or 25th of September, these negroes were placed on the Government steamer *Iatan*, taken back to their owner, and exchanged for forty bales of cotton. When going down the negroes asked if they were going to be given up, and were answered emphatically in the negative by Col. HOVEY; but when the boat started to return they found themselves on shore and their price in cotton on the boat. It is generally believed that transactions of a similar kind in Col. HOVEY's command are of frequent occurrence—that is, the exchanging of negroes for cotton and money.

On the 26th of September, a force of two hundred men from the Eleventh Illinois were sent to Friar's Point, a distance of five miles from HOVEY's camp, who surrounded and held the place, while a force consisting of infantry, artillery and cavalry started for a point immediately opposite HOVEY's encampment, and proceeded to a point twenty miles into the interior of Mississippi, where they seized some three hundred and fifty bales of cotton. Putting it in wagons, they started back, reaching the river bank on the 27th inst.

This cotton, taken by United States troops, and transported on United States wagons, was sold, and its proceeds pocketed by the gentleman who captured it. The cost, apart from the march of troops, &c., was Capt. CHRISTY and three privates of the Eleventh captured, and Sergt. MASON, of the Thirty-third Illinois, killed, and Capt. POTTER and five privates of the same regiment, wounded."

This statement is made by a gentleman who is running for Congress in Tennessee, and who undoubtedly has concluded that serving his country in a legislative capacity, at $3,000 per annum, is better and more profitable than service in the congregation of the cotton worshipers.

I might add that a dozen other statements of perfect reliability might be adduced, showing that not only is the practice of running off negroes and then trading them for cotton common, but also that it is equally an every-day operation to use the power of the Government in seizing cotton, whose proceeds are put in the pockets of enterprising private speculators.

In our late trip under Gen. HOVEY, an enterprising Hebrew, who had smuggled himself along as the correspondent of the *Volk's Freund*, of Cincinnati, deputized me to offer Gen. HOVEY $200 for the privilege of buying up a little cotton on the route homewards. The antecedents of the General convinced me that the offer would be an unsafe one; and in consequence, notwithstanding a most liberal inducement, I refused to act as the agent.

There is another branch of cotton worship that has its peculiarities—that is, in fact, less patriotic than profitable. The South needs salt and quinine, and several other things—particularly recognition. For all of these she is willing to give cotton—her only available circulating medium at present—and of these, the two first-named only are attainable. Every cotton seller makes two stipulations—one, that upon delivering of his cotton he shall receive a certain amount of salt and quinine in addition to cash. Buyers are allowed to give limited quantities of these articles, or rather the sellers, upon receiving a permit from the Board of Trade in this place, are allowed to purchase sufficient quantities of these more necessary articles for family use.

Agents of the Confederate Government, however, are willing to supply cotton in unlimited quantities, providing they can be supplied with salt and quinine. The opportunity for a good speculation is tempting; it is only necessary to smuggle a few barrels of salt and a few bottles of quinine aboard, drop down to some point agreed upon, unload the contraband goods, receive the precious cotton, return to St. Louis and dispose of the freight at an advance that will render the operator independent for life. So gigantic has grown this species of transaction of late, and so profitable, that many persons heretofore, not overwealthy, have been enabled to purchase steamboats and carry on a trade entirely upon their own responsibility.

Officials here knew of the transaction, but failed to see it, providing a bandage of greenbacks were bound over their eyes—apt personifications of Justice, who always rights a wrong when she sees it.

Somebody, however, failed to pay the proper bonus, and the result is, that within the last week or ten days, not less than a dozen vessels, engaged in this lucrative contraband trade, have been tied up, and their owners threatened with arrest, and their boats and cargoes with confiscation. All these boats have, for some time past, been in the practice of dropping below this point and exchanging supplies for cotton. By a tacit understanding between the Confederate agents and the guerrillas, none of the boats engaged in this trade have been molested; if they made fortunes for their owners, they furnished much-needed articles for the Confederates, and hence were of too much benefit to the latter to be molested.

The fortunes that have been made here in cotton buying are beyond all belief. Not merely have thousands of citizens thus benefited themselves, but officers of all grades in the army have been participators in cotton transactions whereby they have suddenly become possessed of immense wealth. I am personally acquainted with men—officers in the United States Army, who, six months ago, could scarcely raise sufficient money to buy a clean shirt, but who to-day have a "clean" half million.

They become rich in various ways. Sometimes an agent operates for them, but most generally they get a start by receiving a few thousand dollars from some speculator, and in liquidation thereof, they send out a few wagons and an escort, which, under pretence of going for forage, goes a few miles into the interior, and brings in a hundred or two hundred bales of cotton.

The extent of transactions in cotton may be estimated when it is known that the shipments through Cairo alone since September 1st have reached a figure not less than 24,000 bales.

These few facts may give you an idea of how we manage things in this Department. Matters in relation to Vicksburgh are assuming a tangible shape. All the boats in the river above here have been seized and ordered to report at once to Memphis, and as the whole number of boats is about one hundred, something important may reasonably be anticipated. GALWAY.

AFFAIRS IN MINNESOTA.

The Indian Tragedy—Treachery Among the Chippewas—The Condemned Sioux, &c.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, SAINT PAUL, MINN., Saturday, Dec. 13, 1862.

Since my last letter to you, dated NOV. 25, and published in your edition of the 7th inst., there has been no news of any particular moment in this remote corner of the Union. But I am to-day put in possession of some facts, which, when they find their way into the public prints of Minnesota, (copied from your journal,) may cause a profound sensation in this and some neighboring counties. Brig.-Gen. SIBLEY, who has succeeded to the command of this Department, has exhibited a degree of energy in his efforts to encompass this Indian trouble, that justly entitles him to the respect of every citizen of the State, and in connection with Hon. H. M. RICE and others, has succeeded in making some discoveries of Indian treachery, the timely knowledge of which, it is hoped, will tend to the embarrassment of LITTLE CROW and his forces, now arrayed against the Government.

There is a small town called Sunrise, not a great way from here—surely not over fifty miles to the northward—and in this vicinity there are numerous lodges of Chippewas. Some of these redskins have been found far beyond their usual hunting-grounds; and upon being interrogated, always profess to be trappers. Upon some of these have been found correspondence from HOLE-IN-THE-DAY, or some of his band, to LITTLE CROW, proposing a joint raid upon the whites in the neighborhood of Sunrise, at as early a period as possible. It is presumed that the Chippewas are only waiting to lay in their usual supply of venson, and that in the course of thirty days they will make another attempt at exterminating the whites. In view of this, Gen. SIBLEY, with his usual promptitude, has dispatched a scout to go up among the Chippewas, and mingle freely with them, to ascertain, if possible, what their real intentions are. This scout, named MCLEOD, was formerly a Judge in some of the upper Counties, and is intimately acquainted with the Indian character, and thinks he will be able to find out definitely the extent of their arrangements with LITTLE CROW. On Sunday last I saw this scout fitted out at the Ordnance Department with the necessary arms and ammunition to insure his safety, and long ere this he is on his way up the Saint Croix, where in disguise he is to move around among the lumbermen under pretence of measuring logs, but with no other real motive than the one spoken of above. He understands his position perfectly, and speaks of it as one of no ordinary peril, as his life would evidently pay the forfeit of his temerity if his designs are discovered. I believe this same MCLEOD was Sheriff at Sunrise last Summer, when a number of half breeds desired to enlist; but, after obtaining permission to do so, they withdrew, and in excuse said, in the style peculiar to the Indian when he knows something that he fears to communicate, yet wishes to reveal, "Oh, we half breeds know something—we know something." It is presumed by those well versed in Indian characteristics and peculiarities, that these half breeds are waiting to unite with the two bands in a campaign this Winter.

The Chippewas are so insolent that they visit the houses of the whites at will, and as most of the men have gone to the war, the wives of our brave volun-

more now in the field are compelled to comply with the most unreasonable demands these "red devils" take delight in making. A company of volunteer cavalry is to leave here to-day for Sunrise, with the double purpose in view of being ready for any emergency, and providing a present defence against the existing outrages. Perhaps, in view of the probability of the rising of this band, the prompt execution of a portion of the condemned Sioux at South Bend, would exert a salutary influence upon HOLE-IN-THE-DAY and his band. This chief is a very dangerous man, possessing more than his share of Indian treachery, and as he is what is termed a civilized Indian, and can read and write, he is only the more dangerous. The squeamishness exhibited by some in respect to applying the death-penalty to the convicted Sioux, has emboldened this bad Chief, and he verily believes we dare not do it. Your editorial in regard to the hanging—contained in the TIMES of the 8th—has been widely discussed here, and has produced so much of an effect, that if the order should come to hang the thirty-nine, or any number the President may decide upon, *immediately*, I doubt not the public wrath would be greatly appeased, and perhaps the neighboring tribes be induced to forego their murderous designs. *Something* must be done, and that right speedily, or before we are aware, the cry will ring in our ears, The Chippewas are upon us! In whom shall rest the responsibility? F. S. T.

THE CONDITION OF THE SOUTH.

Interesting Statement of a Fugitive Louisiana Planter.

The following commentary upon the state of affairs in the Southern Confederacy is from the pen of a gentleman of the highest culture, who left the wealthiest region of the South last Summer, and whose observations throw instructive light upon the present condition of things among the rebels:

Various and quite contradictory statements have been made at different times since the commencement of the war by persons professing to speak from their own knowledge concerning the present condition of the Southern (rebel) States. Some were "Union refugees," some released prisoners of war; some "intelligent foreigners," or even "intelligent contrabands." The following account of these matters as they stood early last Summer is given by a gentleman who left one of the wealthiest and yet most secluded parts of the cotton region in June, 1862. He is identified with that country by long residence, marriage, intimate friendships and property; and he had thus, under God's gracious protection, remained there in safety so long, though dissenting entirely from the prevailing policy of secession, war, &c.

What is here stated may explain the discrepancy of the different accounts alluded to above, and show that persons may have innocently repeated false statements made to them, (sometimes purposely,) or mistaken a temporary or local condition of affairs for what was the tone of the whole country. This might well happen to prisoners of war as foreigners. So any one living at the military centres, to which all the resources of the country were drawn with a stern, unhesitating rigor, would have a very incorrect notion of the country at large. None of the above-mentioned statements that have met the eye of this writer have described the particular region of his residence, though it is one of the most wealthy, populous, and, so to speak, *Southern* parts of the South; a fair and very favorable specimen of the whole.

Any one arriving in the North, after having resided in the South during the past year, is amazed at the contrast apparent at the first view; he has just left, so far as business and industry is concerned, the stillness of palsy or of death, and he finds everything here in a roar and whirl of activity. Last Spring, I used sometimes to remark cautiously to a few of the more moderate persons about me that we were really in a very bad way—no money, no business, articles of necessity frightfully dear and scarce, and no prospect of relief. "Yes," one would say, with a gloomy shake of the head, "but," brightening up, "the North is suffering twice as much as we are." When I cautiously questioned this, I was told, with a look of suspicion of my soundness, that it *must* be so; all Northern prosperity was built upon Southern trade, and when that foundation was withdrawn, of course the superstructure fell in ruin.

It was therfore with actual curiosity that I looked at the crowds of well-dressed and well-to-do people whom I saw everywhere on steamboats and railway trains and in the city streets, and scattered over a country teeming with harvests and busy with well paid labor. I watched these persons, too, to see whether they were the ignorant, vicious and ferocious savages which the Southern press and people, with one voice, had been calling them for a year. There are few persons who will not be somewhat influenced by living in an atmosphere of opinion, totally opposed to their better judgment or previous prejudices, *when they cannot discuss or controvert those assertions.* It was, therefore, curious to me to see a people whom I had heard called a nation of detestable infidels, flocking to churches and Sunday Schools as generally and devoutly, to all appearances, as formerly.

I have been much amused sometimes at statements published in Northern newspapers of "great development of manufactures" in the South, of that people becoming "self-sustaining," and so forth. The truth is that more manufacturing establishments have been burned, captured, or otherwise destroyed in the South, since the war began, than new ones have been established. The whole are utterly inadequate to supply the absolute necessities of the people. There is no skilled labor to make machinery, (and to import it is out of the question,) and very little to use it when obtained. These things cannot be organized and set at work in a year, even under the most favorable circumstances, and almost everything is now unfavorable. There is, to be sure, an exclusion of foreign competition. But then the Southern people never was industrious, ingenious and painstaking; and now, when the distracting excitement and pressing exigencies of war aggravate their characteristic aversion to such things, even want and self-preservation cannot make the South a manufacturing people. Of the small number of Northern men and Europeans, who are available for this, no regulations will prevent a considerable part from being drawn into the army.

Many persons here expected the South to succumb under the want of necessaries early in the war. This failing, they now believe that whatever is said of the South groaning and sinking under this want is "humbug." They were wrong then, and they are wrong now. The old stocks imported from the North or Europe held out long; the pressure of scarcity gradually increased, and at last, as I think, the point of destitution is reached. Look at prices as a test of this. Some say "Oh, but that is in Confederate notes." True; but it is all the money they have, and *scarce enough* at that. Some of our wealthiest citizens cannot get a thousand dollars of this money, where they could once get twenty thousand in gold, or its equivalent. And they must purchase at such rates as these. The old stocks were also sold on credit, the dealers *preferring* this to accepting the currency as cash. But now the little imported or manufactured must be paid for (as it is purchased by the dealers) in cash.

The following were some of the prices six months ago. Common shoes $8 to $12, per pair. Yellow (unbleached) cotton cloth 40 to 50 cents per yard. Commonest calicoes 75 cents per yard. Pins and needles 50 cents per paper. Flour $40 per barrel. Tea $5 to $7 per pound. Coal oil $7 per gallon

They doubtless have advanced considerably since.

I have sometimes been asked what number of men the Confederates had in the field. Having taken great pains to keep informed of the state and progress of their military affairs, I feel confident that they cannot arm and feed more than 400,000. Whatever they may seem on foot beyond this, is a useless expense, and can only embarrass them, and this they understand well. The arms they receive from Europe cannot more than supply the wear and tear of such military operations, and the manufacture of small arms is insignificant. It is their studied policy to create in the North the impression of vast numbers at every point where they expect to be attacked in force. Prisoners and deserters, and "intelligent Secessionists in Baltimore," and timid Union men, are all used for this. I have no doubt that this day the National forces in Virginia outnumber them nearly, if not quite, two to one. But if they can create the opposite impression, they may prevent being attacked and beaten, and this much more cheaply and conveniently than by really having a superior army.

One of their greatest difficulties is in regard to transportation. They have lost most of the rivers; the railroads, with their rolling stock, are rapidly wearing out, and are monopolized for military purposes, to the great injury of the people at large, and they cannot keep supplied with wagons, notwithstanding all they have captured.

No class in the South escapes this crushing adversity. The soldiers are, to a great extent, ragged and barefoot, pining in sickness by thousands; the well shivering and sometimes famishing. But the army is the best off of all. That *must* be fed and clothed in some fashion; so the inexorable and irresistible powers at Richmond decree; and everything that can be discovered by Quartermasters and Commissaries, ranging through the whole country, is drawn into this vortex. Some money, too, finds its way to every soldier.

But take the great cotton planters,—heretofore the envied lords of the land. They not only have no income now, but they cannot get rid of their great expenses, many of these, indeed, doubling upon them. The man whose crop was worth $20,000 last year, had $7,000 or $8,000 expenses on it,—very easy to pay in an ordinary year, but *impossible*, when his receipts have been nothing, (0.) Another such year has overtaken him on the back of the first. There is to pay overseer's wages, negro clothing, meat, barging, medical attendance, &c., &c.,—and receipts for cotton, two years—*naught*. All this time he has not a dollar for his family or private expenses. The tenants of the "quarter" he feels *must* be clothed, and fed, and employed, or the dwellers in the house will not be safe. The concern and distress which darken many thousands of homes in this way are indescribable.

The poor (for insensible of it as we of the South had heretofore been—we *have* the poor with us in vast overwhelming numbers—I mean the poor of our own color and race,) the poor are in no better case. Heretofore the careless and often neglected labor of a husband or father, or son, has supplied many a cabin in the "piney woods" with the scant "store goods," the "bread and meat," which was all they thought of from year's end to year's end. But now the man of the house has long since gone to the wars, perhaps is dead of pneumonia, or in battle; or, if alive, can do nothing for his family, or know nothing of their condition. Their rich neighbors are as bad off as they. There are, perhaps, 200,000 such cases of intolerable misery now in the South; perhaps many more. Our patrician class may have thus sowed the seed of future dreadful troubles to themselves.

The slaves, so far as I know, have remained quiet and obedient. How the troubles of the masters mentioned above and the advance of National armies may affect them, I cannot say. I do not apprehend insurrection and violence, but rather their abandonment of work and thus the utter loss of the crops in the South next year. The negro population there is not insensible to what is going on, as it concerns them; but they are disposed to await what they think the certain result, without exposing themselves to massacre. I know this from many things which have fallen under my observation, and I think it is the opinion of all careful observers in the South. As for their taking arms against the North, that is absurd; on the contrary, they will give information, and in many other ways do all they can to assist the invading armies.

Is there a Union party in the South? Is there any Union sentiment? How many Union men are there? These are questions often asked. To the first I say No! except in the City of New-Orleans, and a few such places, where the mechanics and laborers, especially of Northern birth, do not feel that they have any lot in the Southern Confederacy. Yet, notwithstanding the apparent unanimity and earnestness of the Southern people, I think no one can fairly say that there are not men scattered over the Southern States, and very respectable in character, who have always had a deep disgust for this rebellion, and a hope that it would fail. Most of them have probably professed the contrary, as they would applaud a mad man in what he was doing, lest he should murder them. The writer of this could never do that, yet he can understand how others have. But "Union sentiment" may include something different yet. If it means disappointment with the results of secession, and regret that it was ever undertaken, there may be a great deal of that; and I think there are even Union men who still talk violently of eternal separation and everlasting hatred. There has been terrible disappointment of hopes—hopes of prompt yielding by the North, or of rapid and glorious triumph in war on their part. Then the notion of the controlling power of cotton in the world has been abandoned, and the safety and power of Slavery as connected with cotton has been disproved and given up. There are also very serious dissensions in the South, only kept down now by the urgency of the war.

Still any attempt at conciliation of the South would be utterly thrown away. The only argument which they will understand or respect now is superior and overwhelming force. Prostrate and break to pieces, this Winter, (as you can,) their *organized Government*, and the whole resistance will fall utterly exhausted and helpless. The talk of its being impossible to subjugate the South seems to me very foolish. I believe it the duty of the nation to God and the loyal people, and unhappy South itself, in whose welfare I am very deeply interested.

A year ago I had myself given up to the dreadful *fact*, as I supposed, that the nation was torn asunder. But since the events of last Spring, and what I have seen myself of the prosperity and tremendous power of the Northern States, I have entirely changed my mind. It is plain that, so far as human prudence can foresee, nothing can prevent the speedy fall of the Richmond Government but a sudden blindness and cowardice seizing upon our loyal people just as complete victory is within their reach. B.

Citizen Prisoners Paroled.

The following are the Federal citizens, paroled and delivered by the Confederate authorities, at Aiken's Landing, Va., Sept. 13, 14 and 15, 1862 and since exchanged Sept. 21, 1862.

Geo. Ashby, teamster.
S. P. Allen, teamster.
H. C. Burr, sutler.
H. C. Buel, telegraph operator.
E. Burnett, railroad employer.
Frank Bowers, teamster.
Sam'l. Brindley, teamster.
B. W. Brigham, teamster.
Wm. Bannan, teamster.
J. C. Burrell, physician.
Thos. Cogne, captain's servant.
W. C. Chapin, sutler's clerk.
Jas. T. Crawford, assistant wagon-master.
L. A. Fontague, sutler.
C. E. Gildersleeve, sutler's clerk.
Andrew Geller, teamster.
Peter Griffin, teamster.
Wm. Gardiner, teamster.
Henry Haworth, sutler's clk
Jacob Hepp, sutler's clerk.
Lewis Halmoker, teamster.
D. W. Hale, teamster.
Ernest Haline, teamster.
Wm. Hyman, sutler.
John Hartigan, teamster.
Jas. S. Hamilton, sutler.
Jas W. Hahn, sutler.
W. L. Laughlin, sutler.
Joseph Long, teamster.
G. G. Myers, commissary clerk.
Chas. W. Morse, telegraph operator.
Reuben Moyer, blacksmith.
Peter Mallory, seaman.
Henry C. McLam, sutler.
Samuel May, sutler.
C. B. Mann, sutler.
Gustavus Mills, sutler.
Charles Mitchell, teamster.
John Monahan, teamster.
L. H. Mishotts, railroad employe.
Henry Miman, sutler.
Dan. Stevens, teamster.
Jos. Lleven, teamster.
Alex. Shears, teamster.
Z. B. Springer, wagon maker.
Isaac Layer, U. S. M. R.
Geo. Somerville, teamster.
Benj. Sharer, sutler's clerk.
Geofrey Smith, teamster.
H. D. Saxton, teamster.
M. A. Tenny, wagon maker.
Herman Thyrnforls, sut.clk.
Chas. Clark, teamster.
Frank Drummond, telegraph operator.
H. Deitrich, sutler's clerk.
Michael Donohue, teamster.
Patrick Daniel, teamster.
Henry Dunlop, teamster.
Edward Dunn, teamster.
James Downing, teamster.
Michael Doolin, teamster.
R. O. Eveleth, sutler.
Patrick Flynn, railroad employer.
Jno. Ferguson, teamster.
Michael Frawler, teamster.
E. B. Fisher, sutler's clerk.
H. L. Funk, carpenter.
Samuel Homan, teamster.
Jonas Heydt, sutler.
J. L. Hart, teamster.
Andrew Hanner, teamster.
John Ikes, teamster.
Lyon Isaacks, sutler.
W. H. Kerner, tel. operator.
P. Kelly, railroad employer.
Chas. Kimmel, Quartermaster's clerk.
Peter Kenneth, blacksmith.
F. H. Lamb, tel. operator.
Robt. Lefferty, railroad employe.
Geo. Lawless, teamster.
A. Newman, sutler.
J. H. Ottis, teamster.
Hugh O'Neal, teamster.
L. H. Parkhurst, sutler's clerk.
Wm. Phelps, sutler's clerk.
R. E. Parker, sutler.
Isaac M. Parrill, teamster.
Wm. Pott, teamster.
D. F. Pral, teamster.
Levi Ray, teamster.
A. J. Seely, railroad employe.
Peter Sehlat, sutler.
G. R. Salisbury, sutler's clerk.
John Schone, teamster.
Wm. Trunndo, teamster.
John Tree, teamster.
H. Vonderheidt, sutler's clerk
Samuel West, teamster.
John Windle teamster.
Edward White, teamster.
S. M. Walker, Railroad empl.
B. F. May, teamster.
Geo. H. White, teamster.
Wm. Westaway, sutler.
John Zenk, teamster.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

A Novel Mode of Defrauding the Public.

ARREST OF AN IMPOSTOR.

About two months ago an Israelite, giving his name as Mons. EDREHI, and wearing the full uniform of a Captain in a French Zouave regiment, arrived in this City, and stopped at the Prescott House, attracting a great deal of attention by his appearance, almost every day promenading Broadway in his gay uniform. In a short time his ostensible errand became known. He introduced himself to the most prominent Jews in this City, and represented that he had just arrived from Algeria where the regiment to which he claimed to be attached was stationed. Owing to some difficulty between the Emperor of Morocco and the Jewish inhabitants of that country as he stated, the Emperor oppressed the Jews most grievously, and levied a heavy tribute on them, amounting to some hundred thousand francs. In case this sum was not paid within a certain time, the Jews were to be banished, or otherwise punished. He also represented that the Jewish community there were in great distress and destitution, and consequently unable to pay the sum required by the oppressor. The community determined to apply to their co-religionists in other countries, and had delegated this gay *Zou-Zou* to travel to Europe and America and make collections among the benevolent Jews for the purpose of liquidating this heavy burden put upon their brethren in Morocco by a despotic ruler. The soldier told his piteous story in such a manner, and was supplied with such apparently genuine credentials, that he met with greater success than he could have anticipated, and the Jews, ever willing to respond to a call from a portion of their people in distress, received the delegate from Morocco very kindly, threw their houses open to his visits, and contributed liberally to the object of his journey. Appeals were made in the behalf of the supposed distressed people by the Jewish clergy, and in a short time Mons. EDREHI collected over $3,000, During this time, however, certain parties, partially distrusting the story of the Algerian, opened a correspondence with the Board of Deputies of British Jews in regard to the Morocco gentleman and his mission. Letters were received in this City that Mons. EDREHI was evidently an impostor, and his story a base fabrication from beginning to end. This somewhat opened the eyes of those who had been so basely imposed upon. In the meantime, however, the bird had flown, he having announced his intention to visit the principal cities of the vicinity. Nothing was heard of him until yesterday morning, when it was ascertained that he was in this City, and staying at one of our fashionable hotels. Information was immediately conveyed to the police, and Detective FARLEY was detailed to work up the case, and arrested EDREHI at the Prescott House. He still wears his Zouave uniform, but states that his right name is Mons. MESSARD DRAID. When arrested he was searched, and a considerable sum of money was found on him. He states that he has just returned from Philadelphia, where he went probably on a similar errand on which he visited this City.

Yesterday afternoon the accused was committed to the Tombs to await an examination.

Christmas Eve Festival at St. Thomas' Church.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, corner of Broadway and Houston-street, was filled yesterday afternoon by the communicants of that parish, and others, the occasion being the annual Christmas Eve festival by the children of the Sunday schools attached to the church. The interior was most attractively decorated with evergreens, the work of the ladies of the congregation. On the left of the chancel was placed a wide-spreading Christmas tree, the branches of which were filled with gifts for the scholars, and toward which their youthful eyes would wander with delight even amid the religious ceremonies which preceded the distribution. The pulpit was tastefully adorned with green festoons, and immediately under the grand window, in the extreme rear of the chancel, was the inscription, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus." The marble baptismal font was placed at the end of the centre aisle, immediately in front of the communion railing, having on one side the beautiful banner of the Sunday school, and on the other the National flag. The scholars, seated on each side of the church, the infant class being in the extreme front, numbered upward of seven hundred, under the direction of Mr. THOMAS H. SILL, Superintendent. At half past three o'clock the exercises were commenced by a voluntary on the organ, followed by the singing of the hymn "Shout the Glad Tidings, Exultingly Sing," in the rendition of which the children exhibited the careful training they have undergone as to musical culture. Rev. Dr. MORGAN, Rector, then recited evening prayer, which was followed by the singing of a Christmas Carol by the Infant Departments in chorus. The Rev. Rector then propounded to the scholars catechetical questions, which were answered with unusual promptness. After these exercises were concluded, Dr. MORGAN took occasion to thank the teachers for their "labor of love," in having instructed the children so thoroughly in a knowledge of Christian doctrine, and complimented the scholars for their proficiency. He also congratulated the congregation on the increasing success of the schools, and predicted that great and good results to the cause of religion would ensue therefrom. He was followed by Rev. FREDERICK SILL, assistant pastor, in the same strain, after which the freewill offerings of the scholars and congregation were received, the baptismal font being used as the receptacle. After another hymn and the Benediction, the exercises were closed by the distribution of the gifts with which the Christmas tree was laden, when the assemblage dispersed, the countenances of the children betokening their great satisfaction on being the recipients of these kind remembrancers of their teachers and friends.

Celebration of Christmas Eve at Trinity Church.

The children of the Sunday School connected with Trinity Church, held their Christmas Festival yesterday afternoon in Trinity Church. The aisles, pulpit, chancel, and organ loft were beautifully decorated with evergreens. Shortly before 3 o'clock, the children filed into the Church, and occupied seats in the centre aisle. The celebration commenced by the children singing the "*Adeste Fideles*;" after which Rev. Dr. OGILBY delivered an address, terse and simple, which delighted the children immensely Then the Christmas Carol, composed by Mr. CUTLER was sung, commencing:

"Again the hour is pealing
When Jesus left the sky;
All worlds before Him kneeling—
For man to bleed and die.

Chorus—Ring, bells! ring sweetly ever,
Till Christ shall come again,
And from the graves deliver
His Saints, with Him to reign."

At the conclusion of the chorus, the bells of Trinity rang out an echo with most charming effect. Then "The Christmas Tree," composed by the Rev. Dr. OGILBY, was sung with marked effect, which closed the vocal celebration of the day.

Immediately all eyes were turned toward the middle porch, in which the principal feature of the day, in the eyes of the children, was to be seen. This feature was a large Christmas tree, nearly twenty feet high, laden with nearly every conceivable kind of holiday trinket, and brilliantly lighted with chinese lamps. Around this tree the children marched, and as each one passed by, was presented with a Christmas gift. This concluded the celebration, and, with beaming eyes and cheerful hearts, the Sunday-school scholars left for their respective homes.

During the afternoon the bellringer of Trinity, Mr. JAMES E. AYLIFFE, rang out the following changes and tunes upon the chimes:

1. Ringing the changes on eight bells.
2. Christmas Carol—"Silent Night, Holy Night."
3. Rondo, with variations in major and minor keys, composed for Trinity Church Chimes, by GEORGE F. BRISTOW.
4. Christmas Carol.
5. Evening Bells.
6. Chrismas Carol—"Once in Royal David's City."
7. Vesper Hymn.

This morning at 11 o'clock the usual Episcopal services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. VINTON. Previous to the services the bells will ring forth the subjoined tunes:

1. Ringing the changes on eight bells.
2. Christmas Carol—"Hosanna to King David's Son."
3. Rondo, with variations, arranged by GEORGE F. BRISTOW.
4. Christmas Carol—"Bright, Bright in Silver Light."
5. Samson, from HANDEL'S Chorus—"Then Round About the Starry Heavens."
6. Old Hundred.

School Examination on Governor's Island.

The annual examinations of the children at the Post School, and of the Military School at the south battery, on Governor's Island, came off on Monday last, before the Commandant of the Island, Col. LOOMIS, Mrs. LOOMIS and family, and several other officers, among whom was the Provost-Marshal, Lieut. CASEY. The answering of the children of both schools was very good, and reflected much credit on their teachers, Messrs. BYRON and LONG, as well as Miss MOORE, who superintends the female department. At the conclusion of the examination Col. LOOMIS addressed the children of the Post School as follows:

CHILDREN: I am very much pleased with you today, and I am happy, indeed, to see so many bright faces around me. You are improving very much, and you must always thank and respect your teachers for the pains they take in putting you forward in your several classes. You will also bear in mind the words of your loving Saviour, who died to redeem you, and to redeem me, and all the world if they will only come to him. They are these beautiful words: "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven," and he (the speaker) took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them. The Bible, you know, tells us this. You must never forget also that the Saviour reads your hearts and wishes to take up his abode there. If you love the Lord Jesus he will love you too, and he will at last show how he loves you, by bringing you to his glorious kingdom in Heaven. As you have sung so nicely this day, the Saviour will teach you to sing a new song in Heaven. It will be the song of the Lamb, and He will lead you to participate in all the joys that flow from His throne. You must pass through the trials and temptations of this world; but in Heaven all will be peace and happiness and joy. May God protect you all through life, and at the last bring you home to Heaven.

During the delivery of this short and simple address, the Colonel seemed much affected, and then left for the military school.

The examination here was very well conducted, and the boys appeared healthy and robust, considering that they had been picked up principally from the streets of New-York as young vagrants.

At the conclusion of the exercises they were addressed in a neat and appropriate speech by Acting Adjutant CHILDS.

The children of the Post School were entertained in the evening, to which entertainment Mrs. Col. LOOMIS handsomely contributed.

A Shrewd Swindler Caught.

SEVERAL WHOLESALE MERCHANTS THE VICTIMS.

A young German named THEODORE MANHEIMS, has been arrested by Detective J. C. KINNER, of the Merchants' Independent Private Police, upon complaints lodged with him by the merchants of Park-place, Chambers, Reade and Murray streets and Broadway. Young MANHEIMS was recently employed as a cutter in one of the large tailoring establishments on the west side of the town, from which he was discharged for having stolen a pair of shears. Having acquainted himself with the signatures of various firms, he turned his attention to another branch of tailoring, that of purchasing the goods. He drew orders upon firms for samples of goods, and presenting these orders represented that he would call again and take several cases of goods, but that at the time he would take several pieces of goods as a sample. The card ran well. He thus purchased many pieces of valuable goods from Messrs. HOYT, SPRAGUE & Co., of Park-place; HAVILAND, LINDSLEY & Co., of Chambers-street; WEAVER, RICHARDS & Co., of Reade-street; LEE, BLISS & Co., of Broadway, and others. His orders purported to have been drawn by LONGSTREET, BRADFORD & Co., Broadway, PAINE & CARHART, and others. For some time Detective KINNER had been watching for this rare bird, and the merchants had arranged to give their detective officer the earliest information. A day or two since, MANHEIMS presented an order at the warehouse of Messrs. LEE, BLISS & Co., when he was at once detained and surrendered to an officer, who took him to the 6th Ward Station House. On his person were found many pawn tickets, leading Captain DOWLEY to regard him as a dishonest person. The Captain gave him lodging during the night, and in the morning took him before Justice CONNOLLY, by whom he was committed. Counsel sued a writ of *certiorari*, and took the case before Judge MCCUNN, and owing to the non-appearance of witnesses he was discharged. But Detective KINNER preferred other complaints, upon which the prisoner was held for subsequent examination, and a hearing was had yesterday afternoon at the office of the City Judge. Some of the goods have been recovered.

Commissioners of Charities and Correction.

The following is the weekly statement:

Remaining Dec. 13, 1862		6,419
Admitted		1,528
Total		7,947
Died	40	
Discharged	1,162	
Sent to Blackwell's Island	285	
Sent to State Prison	4	1,491
Remaining Dec. 20, 1862	6,456	
Increase	37	
Bellevue Hospital	589	
Lunatic Asylum	770	
Almshouse	1,470	
Penitentiary	364	
Workhouse	759	
Small Pox Hospital	13	
Randall's Island	664	
Randall's Island Hospital	220	
City Prison	250	
Second District Prison	22	
Third District Prison	16	
Fourth District Prison	1	
Island Hospital	781	
Colored Home	279	
Colored Orphan Asylum	180	
Children at Nurse	35	
City Cemetery	43	6,456

There are at Bellevue Hospital 225 sick and wounded soldiers.

International Relief Committee.

The Treasurer of the International Relief Committee acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions since Dec. 20:

Edward T. Potter, Schenectady, N. Y	$400	
John Munroe & Co	100	
Cash	5	
Robert H. Berdell	100	
John Dowdry	3	
John L. Rogers	50	
Amos Preston, Cheshire, Conn	5	
"Union forever," Havana, Cuba		75
Dowley, Corners & Co	300	
Hadden & Co	250	
Cash, (in stationery)	8	
Rev. James K. Page, (one sovereign)	6	40
Henry Root, Fifty-fourth Regiment, Stafford County, Va	10	
Total	$1,238	15
Previously reported in cash	101,200	82
Grand total	$102,438	97

A. A. LOW, Treasurer, No. 31 Burling-slip.

Court of General Sessions.

At the opening of the Court yesterday morning, Judge MCCUNN presiding, the Grand Jury came in with several indictments for minor offences, which they delivered to the Court, and announced that they had concluded the business before them. The Judge thanked them for the attentive and faithful manner in which they had discharged their duties, and discharged them for the term. It was expected by some, and hoped by others, that the Grand Jury would find an indictment against the Secretary of War, for his supposed agency in certain alleged arbitrary arrests, but the jury, it appears, did not think fit to make asses of themselves for the sake of gratifying the spite of certain politicians of doubtful loyalty.

LUDWIG ALEXANDER, convicted in March last of grand larceny, was sentenced to the State Prison for two years, after which the Court adjourned to Saturday, the 27th inst.

Christmas Knockings.

In justice to our columns, in justice to the wants of our readers, we call attention to Mr. KNOX.

Not content with tiptoeing the topmost round of hatdom, this individual has wormed himself deep into fur, and advertises a collection of bear-skins, lynx-skins, fox-skins and otter-skins, fur caps, fur capes, fur collars and fur cuffs; fancy hats of all styles, sober hats, with no fancy whatever, and Winter dress hats by the score, grace his windows, while military caps suitable to the humblest private or the most distinguished General, perch saucily by their side.

Give KNOX a call.

George and Martha.

The beautiful pictures of GEORGE and MARTHA WASHINGTON, of which we wrote in terms of commendation, are meeting with great and merited success. The likeness is identical with the traditional Stuart, and the pictures, as such, are exceedingly beautiful, making at this time a most appropriate and elegant present. The agent, Mr. W. S. HARLOW, is now canvassing the City.

Funeral of Col. J. H. Bull.

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST DIVISION N. Y. N. G.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

SPECIAL ORDER, No. 21.—The funeral of those gallant officers, Col. JAMES H. BULL and Capt. JOHN P. DODGE, both of the Sixty-sixth Regiment New-York Volunteers, who fell, while in the performance of their duty, in the desperate charge of the heights at Fredericksburgh, will take place on Friday next, the 26th inst., from the City Hall, under the direction of the National Committee of Arrangements.

Brig.-Gen. SPICER will direct the Seventy-first Regiment, Col. SMITH, to parade as the funeral escort on that occasion. The regiment will be formed in line in front of the City Hall, at 2 o'clock P. M., precisely. Col. SMITH will detail a Guard of Honor, to take charge of the remains in the Governor's Room, on the day previous.

Officers of the Division not on duty, are requested to attend in uniform, in the Governor's Room, at 1½ P. M., with the usual badge of mourning.

By order of Major-Gen. SANDFORD.
ALEXANDER HAMILTON, A. D. C.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

CHRISTMAS AT THE INSTITUTIONS.—Through the liberality of the Commissioners of Charities, who have voted to the several charitable institutions sums of money, with which to supply some extra luxuries to the inmates, they will all have a holiday.

At Bellevue Hospital the ladies of the neighborhood intend to supply to the soldiers a dinner, and the exercises will be of an interesting character.

On Randall's Island, the children will all be presented with a toy or book, candies, &c., and at 11 o'clock they will assemble at the school-room and go through the following programme: Prayer, Master Franklin; Welcome, Master H. Graham; Address, President Draper; Hymn, by all the Children; Christmas Address, Miss Mary Brown; Scripture Questions, by the Boys; Address, Master James Dairy; Christmas Carol, by the Children; Dialogue, Masters Thomas and Franklin; Santa Claus, Master Gibson; Christmas Song, by the Children; Benediction, Master H. Daily and Collects; Hymn, by the Children; Dismissal, Masters McLaughlin and Gibson; A Christmas Dinner, and the lighting up of a Christmas tree will conclude the day. The lunatics on Blackwell's Island are also to have a jollification and a large amount of presents.

FIRE IN A MANUFACTORY IN ANN-STREET.—About 1¾ o'clock yesterday afternoon, a fire was discovered in the boiler-room in the rear of building No. 59 Ann-street, which, before the flames could be extinguished, resulted in the loss of property to the amount of several thousand dollars. From the basement, in which the boiler was located, the fire quickly spread, owing to the combustible nature of the surrounding material, to the upper floors, and in a short space of time, nearly the whole of the building, four stories in height, was in flames. The first floor was occupied by WM. H. WELLS as a storehouse for printer's ink. His loss will amount to about $600; not insured. A portion of the same floor of the rear building was occupied by the New-York Umbrella Company, J. PASERT, Agent. Their loss is heavy, but to what amount could not be ascertained. They are insured for $1,500 in the East River Insurance Company. The third and fourth floors were jointly occupied by J. P. TRAVERS and W. S. HARRIS, manufacturers of twine. Mr. TRAVERS' loss is considerable both by fire and water. He is insured for $2,500 in the St. Mark's, Kings County and Montauk Insurance Companies. Mr. HARRIS' damage is not so great, and mostly by water. He is said to be insured. The building is owned by WILLIAM B. ASTOR. The damage to it will amount to about $2,000; fully insured in City companies. The remainder of this building, and an adjoining one, occupied by Messrs. WILDEY and BUZZEL, as a machine shop, were considerably damaged; mostly by water. A small two-story building adjoining, occupied by J. C. NIXON, cutler, was also much damaged by water. Squads of policemen, from the First, Second, Third and Fourth Precincts, were early on the ground, and rendered effective service in saving property, and keeping back the crowd, so that the firemen could work their engines.

SWORD FOR GEN. CORCORAN.—The sword to be presented by the Corporation to Brig.-Gen. CORCORAN has been completed and placed in charge of the keeper of the City Hall, Mr. ROOME. It will be sent forward to the General, and presented to him by the Joint Committee of the Common Council, of which Alderman WALSH is Chairman, as soon as the General's duties may afford an opportunity for the formal presentation. The blade, which is made of the best Damascus steel, bears an appropriate inscription on one side, and on the opposite side is the motto, "Never draw me without cause, nor sheathe me without honor." These are the only features of the gift not heretofore described in the TIMES. The hilt and scabbard ornamentations are elaborate and appropriate. An elegant sash and belt and a handsome case for the sword complete the present, which cost $800.

A CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE NEW-ENGLAND ROOMS.—A dinner will be given at 1 o'clock to-day to the soldiers now under the care of the New-England Soldiers' Relief Association, in the rooms No. 196 Broadway. The volunteers exceed 200 in number. The presence and participation of the members of the Association and of their families on the occasion are particularly desired, and it is requested that this notice be accepted as an invitation. The proceedings after the dinner are expected to be of much interest, and a full attendance would be one of the best evidences to the soldiers of the sympathy which is felt in their behalf.

THE LITTLE LADY AT THE ST. NICHOLAS.—The Lilliputian Queen of Beauty, Miss WARREN, was honored yesterday by the presence of several hundred of our first ladies, at her private parlor in the St. Nicholas Hotel. All expressed their wonder and delight in seeing such a perfectly formed lady, of such miniature size, and at the same time so remarkably intelligent and graceful. Her fashionable dresses and rich jewels, from Messrs. BALL & BLACK, were not the least attractive features. Miss WARREN receives calls to-day and to-morrow from the favored few to whom she has sent cards of invitation.

MR. MASON JONES, ON SUNDAY EVENING.—This very popular Irish orator will deliver an oration on the "Life and Character of St. Paul," at the Academy of Music, next Sunday evening. There will be no charge for admission. All the pews will be free. They who go first will have a chance of a parquette pew, whilst those who go late will certainly have to take their pew in the gallery, for the congregation will undoubtedly be a large one, and the Academy of Music will present a scene very rarely witnessed within its walls on a Sunday night.

OPENING OF THE FIFTH-AVENUE SKATING POND.—Yesterday the Fifth-avenue Skating Pond—the entrance of which is at the corner of Fifty-eighth-street and Fifth-avenue, was opened to the public. No skating took place, as the water was only let in early in the morning, and the weather was not severe enough to freeze it. A band was in attendance, as it will be every day when skating is practicable, which will be the first severe frost.

MEMORIAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The seventh anniversary of the Memorial Church Sunday-school will be held this (Christmas) evening, at 7 o'clock, in the Church corner of Hammond-street and Waverly-place. Admission free. A collection will be made for the School fund.

FUN AT BARNUM'S ALL DAY LONG.—Every hour to-day there will be a dramatic performance at BARNUM'S Lecture Room. Little Nutt, The What-is-it, and several millions of curiosities, can be seen for two shill—twenty-five cents.

SOCIAL TEA.—There will be a social tea meeting of the Sunday School and friends of the Christian Alliance this evening at the dining hall of the City Assembly Rooms, Broadway. Admission free.

BROADWAY MENAGERIE.—The wild animals at the Broadway Menagerie will take their Christmas dinner to-day, at 12 o'clock. It's a good thing to see.

THE BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

Message of Mayor Opdyke on the Purchase of the Fort Gansevoort Property.

The following, which is part of the official record of the transactions in the Board of Councilmen Tuesday evening, was omitted in this morning's issue of the TIMES:

MESSAGE FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR.

The Private Secretary of His Honor the Mayor was here announced by the Sergeant-at-Arms, who presented the following message, returning, without his approval, the resolution relative to the purchase of the Fort Gansevoort property, viz.:

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1862.

To the Honorable the Board of Councilmen:

GENTLEMEN:

I return, without approval, the report and resolutions which originated in your honorable body, proposing to accept the offer of James B. Taylor to sell to the City "all that block of land bounded northerly by Twelfth-street, easterly by West-street and Twelfth-avenue, southerly by Gansevoort-street, and westerly by Thirteenth-avenue and the North River, together with all the water rights, privileges and immunities as the same were conveyed to Joseph B. Varnum by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New-York, by deed bearing date December twenty-seven, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, for the use and purposes of a market, for the sum of five hundred and thirty-three thousand four hundred and thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents, exclusive of incumbrances; and requiring the Comptroller to receive the deed and pay for the same in the bonds of the City, bearing six per cent. interest, and pledging the faith of the City for the payment of principal and interest of said bonds.

The purchase contemplated by these resolutions is

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DEC. 25, 1862.

Amusements this Evening.

WINTER GARDEN—The Lakes of Killarney.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE—Blondette; or, The Naughty Prince and Pretty Peasant.

WALLACK'S—The Invisible Husband.

NIBLO'S GARDEN—Faust and Marguerite.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC—The Iron Chest—Katherine and Petruchio.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM—The Drama, Hardykrunts; or, The Knight and the Wood Demon, every hour. Driesbach's Performing Bears, Giant Girl, &c., at all hours.

COOPER INSTITUTE—Father Kemp's Old Folks.

GOUPIL'S GALLERY—Church's Niagara.

BROADWAY MENAGERIE—Complete School of Natural History.

PALACE OF MUSIC HALL—Lucretia Borgia.

NIBLO'S SALOON—Goodwin & Wilder's Polymorama.

YOUNG FOLKS' CONCERT—M. E. Church, 18th-st. near 8th-av.

NEW HALL OF ART (No. 662 Broadway)—Banvard's Panorama of the Mississippi and the War.

IRVING HALL—The Messiah.

AULD LANG SYNE—Group of Statuary, corner 4th-st, and Broadway.

HOPE CHAPEL—Tirrell's California.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

The price of the New-York Times (Daily) hereafter will be Three Cents, except of the Sunday morning edition, which will be Four Cents.

To Mail Subscribers the price will be $8 per annum:—including the Sunday morning edition, it will be $10.

The price of the Semi-Weekly Times, will be:

One copy one year	$3 00
Two copies one year	5 00
Five copies one year	12 00

The price of the Weekly Times will be:

One copy one year	$2 00
Three copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	15 00
Twenty copies one year	25 00

Payments invariably in advance.

To any person who will send us a Club of Twenty, the Semi-Weekly Times will be sent gratuitously for one year. To any one sending us a Club of Fifty, the Daily Times will be sent gratis for one year. Address

H. J. Raymond & Co., Publishers.

New-York, Dec. 4.

☞Revenue Stamps for Checks, in sheets, for sale at Times Counting-Room.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

It appears from the dispatches published this morning, that Gen. Foster did not remain at Goldsboro long after its capture, but returned to Newbern after destroying both the railroad and telegraph, so that they cannot again be used by the rebels. The capture of Goldsboro was effected without much loss. In destroying the railroad Gen. Foster seems to have taken a lesson from the rebels in the destruction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. He took up the ties, burned them, and rendered the rails unfit for use. The General is reported to have arrived at Fortress Monroe on Tuesday.

Our dispatch from the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac contains no news of the army itself. Richmond papers of the 23d have been received there, however, which contain a dispatch from Charleston announcing that a large steamer had run the blockade on the previous day, freighted for the rebel Government with a heavy stock of shoes and blankets, an immense quantity of cloth, and oth er supplies

The rebel Gens. Floyd and Humphrey Marshall are reported to have advanced into Eastern Kentucky from Western Virginia through Pound Gap, with a large force. A movement of National troops is said to have taken place from Richmond, Ky., which will probably cause the rebels to again take the back track.

Gen. Blunt's command has been extended to include the Indian Territory and Western Arkansas.

It is reported that Major-Gen. Fremont is to assume command of the Mississippi River expedition, now organizing at Memphis.

The Murfreesboro *Rebel Banner*, of the 17th inst., says that the Confederate Court at Knoxville has issued decrees in four hundred cases, under the sequestration laws, embracing over a million dollars' worth of property. Among the cases are Andrew Johnson, Horace Maynard and John Coffee Childs, the Whetmore estate in Bradley County, and Ducktown Copper Mines.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Children's Christmas festival took place yesterday afternoon at Trinity Church. The Rev. Dr. Ogilby delivered a brief address to the children, after which the Christmas Carol was sung, at the end of each chorus the bells chiming in as an echo with delicious effect. A large Christmas tree was exhibited in the middle porch, brilliantly lighted, and laden with presents, each Sunday-school scholar received one, and left the church perfectly happy.

The annual Christmas Eve festival by the Sunday schools attached to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, corner of Broadway and Houston-street, was celebrated yesterday. Addresses were made by Rev. Dr. Morgan and Rev. Mr. Sill. The church was beautifully decorated, and a large number of gifts distributed to the scholars.

Col. Miller, of the Seventh Minnesota Regiment, commander of the post at Mankato on Dec. 17, issued an order which read thus: "The President of the United States having directed the execution of thirty-nine of the Sioux and half-breed prisoners, now in my charge, on Friday, the 26th inst., he having postponed the time from the 19th inst., said execution will be carried into effect in front of the Indian Prison, at this place, on that day at 10 o'clock A. M. The Executive also enjoins that none of the prisoners be allowed to escape, and that they be protected for future disposition by the Government, and the orders will be executed by the military force at my disposal, with the utmost fidelity. The aid of all good citizens is invoked to maintain the law and constitutional authority of the land on that occasion. The State of Minnesota must not, in addition to the terrible wrongs and outrages inflicted upon her by the murderous savages, suffer, if possible, still more fatally in her prosperity and reputation at the hands of a few of our misguided, though deeply injured, fellow citizens."

Shipments up the Green River, Kentucky, have been prohibited by the authorities at Evansville, Indiana.

In accordance with some agreement with Gen. Rosecrans, Gen. Bragg has unconditionally released Dr. Charlton, of Davidson County, Tenn., who was arrested and paroled by the Confederates some time since. It has been intimated that the agreement is the result of recent negotiations between these Generals, looking to the protection of peaceable citizens within their respective lines from molestation and arrest, so long as they continue non-combatants.

The Memphis *Bulletin* has this paragraph: "We learn, from a source entitled to credit, that the Secessionists of a portion of Fayette and other counties in this Congressional District, have matured a plan by which they hope to play foul in the approaching election. They have seen President Lincoln's letter, and they are wonderfully in favor of voting in the approaching Congressional election. But they do not wish thus to participate in the spirit evinced by President Lincoln. They say that if Lincoln will let them vote, while they have a representative at Richmond, they are perfectly willing to do so; but they will only participate provided they have an opportunity to do so *without making a record*. They say that, under the laws of Tennessee, no one has a right to make a voter disclose the person for whom he votes, and if they can do this, and not be compelled to take the oath, they will vote!"

There are now less than one thousand men wanting to fill the quota of Massachusetts, and recently recruiting has been more brisk than it was a few weeks ago. It is not probable that there will be a draft to obtain any of the number wanting, unless it be in a few towns in Berkshire, Hampden and Hampshire Counties. In one town which sold its surplus to Boston, and now finds its quota not quite full, the Selectmen refuse to pay back the money to the city, saying they prefer to let the town stand the draft.

The London (C. W.) *Free Press* describes a revolting execution which transpired at Woodstock, on Tuesday, Dec. 16. Thomas Cook, who murdered his wife at Innerkip, in July last, then suffered the penalty of his crime. The drop of the scaffold upon which he was executed, was arranged so as to give a fall of nine feet and four inches, and when the executioner drew the bolt, the unfortunate man fell with such momentum that his head was actually torn from his body.

The United States steamer *Rhode Island*, which has just been converted into a gunboat, received severe usage on her first trip. She arrived at Fortress Monroe from Boston on the 18th, having encountered a tremendous gale, which carried away both her wheel-houses, and did other serious damage. After outriding the gale, and while going into Hampton Roads, at midnight on Wednesday, she struck on a reef, where she remained till daylight next morning. She will probably have to go up to Norfolk.

Hon. J. W. Noell replies to some strictures made upon his emancipation project by the St. Louis *Democrat*, with the assertion that he introduced it into Congress in good faith, and to test the sincerity of no one. He adds: "The broad assertion is made that no such measure can pass this Congress. I here declare, as my deliberate opinion, from extensive intercourse with members and Senators on the subject, that such a measure will be in good faith passed this Congress. The only opposition to it is from Northern Democrats and Border State Conservatives. The dominant party here will, in my opinion, pass a liberal and just bill, in spite of this opposition."

Brig.-Gen. W. B. Campbell, who was wounded in the battle at Fredericksburgh, has been confounded with the distinguished Unionist of Nashville of the same name. Although the latter holds the same rank in the army, he has no active command, and was in Nashville on the day of the great battle.

The London (C. W.) *Prototype* has the following notice of a recent highly important decision: "On Saturday the Judges delivered judgment in the important case of the Commercial Bank *vs.* The Great Western Railway, to recover about $1,000,000, the amount of the notes held by the bank against the Company. The money claimed had been advanced by the bank on account of the Detroit and Milwaukee Branch of the Great Western. The Great Western Company withstood payment on the ground that the sum had not been asked for by the Company, or advanced on their responsibility, but on that of Messrs. Brydges & Reynolds. The Court would seem to have taken the view that the money was advanced to those gentlemen as agents for the Company, and that, therefore, the Company, as principals, were liable. Judgment was given for the bank to recover the amount claimed. The Judges were unanimous."

The General Term of the Superior Court, in a case brought before them, in which a blind lady had recovered a verdict for $1,000 against the City for a defect in the sidewalk, by reason of which she claimed to have sustained damage, have affirmed the judgment, holding that it is the duty of the Corporation to keep its sidewalks in such repair as that even the blind shall be protected from injury by reason of defects therein.

The Grand Jury announced in the Court of Sessions yesterday that they had concluded all the business before them, and they were discharged for the Term. The much talked of indictment against the Secretary of War, which many anticipated would be found by this Grand Jury, was not forthcoming.

Breadstuffs attracted rather more attention on Wednesday, and prices closed in favor of sellers. Provisions, Hay, Hops and Cotton were in fair demand at steady rates. Groceries were very quiet, as were also Fish, Fruit, Hides, Leather, Whisky, Metals, Spices, Wool, Tobacco, Dry Goods and Naval Stores. Limited freight engagements were reported. There were 522 vessels, of all classes, in port.

Foster's Expedition.—Those who expected and hoped for great things from the Goldsboro expedition of Gen. Foster, with its four successive victories, will be badly disappointed to learn that his army has retired from the line of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, and is now back at Newbern, while he himself was at Fortress Monroe on Tuesday. The entire result of the expedition, and its victorious battles, was that Foster "tore up the railroad, burnt the ties and destroyed the rails and telegraph." This is rather small fruit, certainly, compared with the promise we had yesterday, and compared with the heavy losses we sustained in the four victories. The battles were well fought, and undoubtedly were victories for our arms; but we think that if the object of the movement was merely to cut the telegraph wires, and tear up some rails, that a properly organized secret expedition of a dozen men, or a cavalry raid after the style of Stuart and Hampton, might have accomplished as much, without sacrificing a single life. The dispatch states that the destroyed wires and rails "cannot again be used"—which is quite likely; but it remains to be proved that the rebels cannot put up other wires and put down other rails in a shorter time than was occupied in this expedition. We have no doubt that, if when Gen. Foster got to the line of the railroad, he had run his troops down in the rear of Wilmington, instead of back to Newbern, he could easily have captured that most important city of North Carolina, and the port at which the blockade is often run.

The supplementary dispatch from Gen. Foster yesterday stated that he was confident of his ability to hold Goldsboro until reinforcements reached him; and that the enemy was reported to be advancing upon him in force estimated at 25,000. We anticipated that the rebels would attempt to drive him from Goldsboro; it is too important a point to be given up without a far greater struggle than they have yet made for it; but we had imagined that Gen. Foster also had anticipated this, and that he would not have advanced at all unless his "confidence in his ability" to hold the place was well founded.

There may possibly be an explanation of these things in the theory that this movement was really primarily intended and ordered as a diversion against the rebels while Burnside was moving on their works at Fredericksburgh. It will be remembered that Foster started out from Newbern the same day that Burnside threw the bridges across the Rappahannock, and that his first battle was fought on the same Saturday as the battle of Fredericksburgh. It may be that his movement was even then too late for Burnside; and it may be that Burnside's operation having failed, this one also, in its main object, has fallen through with it. On no other theory can we account for the advance to Goldsboro and the sudden return to Newbern.

The Armies in Winter.

We suppose that this year at least will witness no more military operations. Whatever might be the desire of the country, or the army, or the President, it would be impossible for Gen. Burnside to make any movement in the solitary week that remains of 1862. Gen. Sigel's Grand Division has been moved up north from Falmouth, to act as a check upon any designs of the rebels against Washington, and the other three Grand Divisions which fought the great battle of the 13th, could not now be judiciously led into another such assault upon the enemy's works. Our soldiers will enjoy their rough and tough Christmas dinner to-day, and their New Years' Festival on Thursday next, on the north bank of the Rappahannock—our Generals in the meantime keeping a sharp eye upon the enemy, lest he attempts to take some advantage of the expected repose and enjoyments of the holidays.

But we suppose the rebels have no designs this Winter beyond the simple and direct work of defending Richmond on the line which it has pleased Gen. Burnside to choose as his line of advance. The rapidity with which they have moved troops southward to repel the advance of Gen. Foster, shows that they are determined not to permit any movement in their rear as long as it is in their power to prevent it. They have succeeded in that object at present, and their subsequent manœuverings will probably be shaped and guided entirely by ours. No route to Washington is now open to Stonewall Jackson—either our own forces or the forces of nature blocking up his pathway in every direction. The Confederate army doubtless expects to enjoy precisely such a Winter at Fredericksburgh as they enjoyed, or suffered, last Winter at Manassas.

It is strongly urged in the West that the Army of the Potomac, having so frequently been baulked in its efforts against Richmond, also remain simply on the defensive this Winter, and that Government direct its energies and its forces to operations in Tennessee and on the Mississippi River. This would be no part of the "anaconda" strategy, which is so praised and ridiculed by its friends and foes, but might be so conducted as to bear almost as directly upon the sources and centres of rebel strength as the movement straight upon Richmond. An advance of Rosecrans' army upon Chattanooga and Knoxville, which has been so long expected and so tediously delayed, and an advance of Grant's army to Vicksburgh, would solve two very serious problems of the war, and, it may almost be said, would bring the rebellion to an end in the States of the southwest.

But we do not see how the stoppage of military operations in the East, would aid in carrying out such a scheme. On the contrary, it would give the rebel Government a most excellent opportunity to throw forward men over the East Tennessee and Virginia railroad to the menaced points in Tennessee; and this they would do—bringing them backward and forward as the case might require—with a facility far greater than it would be possible for us to transport troops, considering the long and roundabout route we would necessarily traverse. The Western troops in the Army of the Potomac, of which some persons in the West are calling for the transfer, could not reach any point in the West where they would be of service under a month—during which time the rebels, seeing our Virginia army depleted, and necessarily only on the defensive, could throw force enough into Tennessee to capture the capital of the State itself.

We do not think there is any need to stop operations in the East that they may be carried on in the West. Our armies, in either section, if concentrated and properly led, are strong enough to do each its respective work. Gen. Rosecrans, we hear, is only awaiting the development of an operation of our armies near the line of Northern Mississippi to push forward into East Tennessee; and such a cautious commander would certainly not move unless he felt quite able to cope with the enemy's forces.

We have no idea, either, that Burnside has given up the plan of further Winter work. Fredericksburgh, though it cost much, proved nothing. It does not imply a change of base, or a change of route, or a lengthy stoppage to operations. It did not involve essential damage to our army, nor its demoralization, nor its dispiritment. And we should not wonder if, before the Winter is over, it had not only, under its able leader, begun work again, but finished its work.

Liabilities of City Governments—A Case in Brooklyn.—A matter came up in the City Court of Brooklyn last week, to which we think the attention of people of that city should be called. It appears that a man sued the city, to recover damages occasioned to him by falling into a hole in the street, which had been opened to receive sewer pipes, and left in a dark night without any light up or any safeguard around it. The counsel for the city, when the case was opened to the jury, called the attention of the Court to the 39th section of the new city charter, passed by the last Legislature, and which, as he claimed, relieved the city from all claims for such injuries. The section provides that the city "shall not be liable for any nonfeasance or misfeasance" of "any officer of the city" of duty imposed upon him by the act in question, but "the remedy of the party aggrieved for any such nonfeasance or misfeasance" shall be by *mandamus* or other action against the officer.

Judge Reynolds, after a brief argument, dismissed the complaint, in order that the question might have the benefit of a full argument and more deliberate consideration, before wasting time with trying the questions of fact.

It will be seen that if the Courts shall sustain the view thus taken of the effect of this statute, and if the statute itself shall be held to be constitutional, Brooklyn will stand in a unique position among the cities of the country. Others are liable in damages for the neglects or wrongs of their officers. Suits against them are frequent, and damages recovered form no inconsiderable item in municipal expenses. It will be otherwise in Brooklyn, and parties who suffer from negligence of officials will have to look to their personal responsibility instead of that of the city.

One effect of this will be likely to be that the possession of property, out of which such claims can be enforced, will make a man less likely to accept such a position, and a man without anything will have a decided advantage over one who has property, in taking any office for the city. But, on the other hand, it would seem as if the citizens would be led to take more heed to secure careful and responsible officers, because no one knows when he may, by some neglect, suffer great damage, for which he would otherwise have no remedy except against an irresponsible party.

The principle is an entirely different one from that on which municipal governments have been hitherto organized. It remains to be seen whether it will be sustained by the Courts, or whether, if sustained, its working shall be found to be such as to commend it to the judgment and secure the safety of the people.

Another Job.

We are threatened with two 7,000-ton ships, iron-clad in a manner which the whole practice of Europe and America has proved defective, at four million two hundred thousand dollars a-piece. If that is not bad enough, we may add that the designs of hull and machinery were made by the Bureaux of Construction and Steam-engineering. We understand that the Department has actually received proposals for the construction of these vessels.

While the most enlightened professional opinion and the best practice, everywhere, favored the *concentration* of armor, so that it may be made thick enough to be really protective at *vital points*, these forty-two-hundred-thousand-dollar ships are to have a thin skin of armor all over—armor thick enough, undoubtedly, to employ all their buoyancy, but thin enough to let in the projectile of any first-class navy gun, and a beam of daylight and splinters as big as a barrel.

While the best talent of the profession in England, *backed* by the unlimited means of the Government, has in vain strained every résource to dispense with wooden backing behind armor plates—while the Admiralty have discussed, and, we believe, have concluded upon the necessity of changing the nine-inch backing of several large ships already half constructed, to eighteen-inch backing—while Fairbairn, the eminent engineer, who insisted on dispensing with wood in all forms, and furnished a very thoroughly made and costly target without it, has now acknowledged the absolute necessity of using it behind armor plates—while Dahlgren, right before the eyes of the Department, has sent his eleven-inch shot through the very plates proposed for these wonderful vessels—while, in short, the importance of elastic material in rear of the armor, to deaden the blow on the structure behind, and to prevent the skin and ribs of the vessel from being smashed in bodily, is patent to the merest schoolboy in iron-clad ship-building, the bureaux of construction, and steam engineering at Washington have actually received proposals for staking, not only a sum that would build a small navy of *Monitors*, but the issue of perhaps a decisive battle, and the credit of the service, on four and a half-inch plates, *without any backing at all*. Four and a half-inch plates, however well backed, would appear to be sufficiently unsafe. Whitworth sent a *shell* through them, and exploded it beyond them, the first time he tried; and the experimental ordnance, of to-day, will be the service ordnance of every European iron-clad, long before these remarkable vessels can possibly be completed.

Again—what person connected with the Bureau either of Construction or Engineering has the knowledge or experience necessary to elaborate the plans of an *iron* vessel of this magnitude? In England, when an iron navy was wanted, the preparation of the designs was given, with obvious propriety, to the *iron* shipbuilders, and not to the wooden men. The talents of their Scott Russells were employed by their Government; the assistance of our Scott Russells is declined by ours.

And if the hulls of these mighty ships are to be so formidable, what are the chances for their machinery? It will develop great speed, no doubt, but at what sacrifice? Its designer has, by causing naval machinery to be constructed solely from his own plans, not only filled the ships of the Government with the most complicated, costly and inefficient marine engines extant, but has neutralized the entire engineering ability of the country, which might otherwise have been employed for the benefit of the service. He has constructed the whole fleet of gunboats with engines and boilers above water, and in shot range, when there was plenty of room for them below water and out of danger. He has contradicted the steam-engineering practice of the whole world since steam-engineering began, on the basis of a few inadequate experiments, by denying the advantages of expanding steam by means of cut-offs, which are actually realized in practice. And at last he has designed the machinery of these ships. They are, indeed, costly; but, as they say in England, and as it may turn out here, in some sense, it is only a question of pounds, shillings and pence.

So far, three bids have been received for the construction of these vessels, and it is a strange coincidence that two of them—one from Pennsylvania and the other from New-York—are of precisely the same amount, viz., $4,200,000, which, taking the present price of materials and labor into account, is only a million and a quarter more than such vessels can be built for, including the common profit; and only two millions more than the price of the English *Agincourt*, *Northumberland*, and *Minotaur*, which, having only a little less tonnage, are the finest iron ships ever designed, as to the distribution and quality of material, the excellence of workmanship, and the amount of armor. The extra cost of our 7,000 ton vessels, then, above a fair price, is sufficient to build two iron-clads of the *Dictator* class—enlarged and improved *Monitors*, which have already attracted great attention in England, on account of their 10½ inches of side armor, *backed by fifty inches of oak*.

On the whole, this operation throws the defective vessels of the Banks expedition, and all the little idiosyncracies of Government agents in that range of magnitude, entirely into the shade. We think the people have had enough of it already, and we hope Congress will put the whole matter out of sight and hearing as quickly as possible.

The Rise in the Price of Paper.

We publish in another column a communication from a member of the "Paper-Makers' Association," intended to enlighten the public as to the reasons for the recent very rapid increase in the price of paper, and especially to correct the impression that it has been caused in any degree by a combination among the paper-makers themselves. The writer attributes the increase to the scarcity of rags—to the efforts of paper-makers to lay in a supply for the future, which caused an increased demand—to the alarm of consumers of paper, which led them to pay large prices, and to sundry other reasons of a kindred character. Unquestionably, all these causes had a good deal to do with it. They certainly laid the foundation for the movement. The main question relates to the action of the paper-makers themselves, to the extent to which they availed themselves of the opportunity offered by the scarcity of rags to create the very state of things which they now attribute to other causes.

The writer claims for paper-makers the right to combine in regard to prices. "Even if there had been an agreement in reference to prices, it would have given no just ground of complaint." We think otherwise. Paper is an article sold in open market, its price varying according to the laws of supply and demand; and any attempt to interfere with the natural operation of those laws, to keep prices up when otherwise they would go down, is a fraud upon the great mass of consumers—just as much a fraud as would be a similar combination, for similar purposes, among the sellers of bread or flour, or any other article of universal use. The example of the newspaper Press, which our correspondent cites, is not in point. Newspapers are sold at a fixed price—never varying, whatever may be the natural fluctuations in the price of paper, of ink, of labor, or the other materials used in their manufacture. Their price remains the same, and it is only to meet the crushing effect of such combinations as that of the paper-makers, and the other extraordinary emergencies of the present crisis, that the newspapers have now departed from this general rule.

Our correspondent makes a very cautious and guarded attempt, however, to deny that any combination exists among the paper-makers to control the price of paper. His denials, however, are very feeble. The fact is notorious. Indeed he admits that the manufacturers of *writing* paper "agreed to an advance in prices *several months since*,"—long before the scarcity of rags had begun to be felt. In their first meeting at Springfield, they combined not to sell paper for less than 17 cents per pound,—and at their subsequent meeting in this City they fixed the price at 25. It was their example undoubtedly that led to the formation of the Paper-Makers' Association, and to the effort to control the prices of *all kinds* of paper. The same men are members of both combinations—and although they only "recommended" an increase in the price of printing paper, it was well understood, as it has since proved, that this recommendation had all the force of an obligation.

The fact is, that neither rags nor paper had advanced in price to any considerable extent until after the combination of the paper-makers:—and some of the members of this Association had then and still have a very large supply of rags on hand, which they bought at low prices. They *hold* them for the purpose of keeping up the prices of rags and paper;—and then they attribute both to the scarcity of raw material.

We do not suppose that this combination among the paper-makers is the *sole* cause of the enormous price of paper. Unless there had been a scarcity of the raw material and an inflation of the currency, they could not have forced prices to their present point. But without their aid that point could not have been reached. They have, in our judgment, contributed largely to the increase in prices, and unless the whole reading community is content to be entirely at their mercy, some means must be found of enlarging the market from which supplies can be obtained.

LATER FROH HAVANA.

A Cargo of Slaves Run Ashore on the Cuban Coast, &c.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

Havana, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1862.

M. Budin and suite passed through Santiago de Cuba on the 7th inst., in the French steamer *Tampico*. He has been Collector of Imposts at the Capitol of Savoy and goes on a mission from Napoleon III. to Mexico.

On the 9th, arrived at Santiago de Cuba, the English steamer *Mia*, from Martinique, with 111 French sailors, for Vera Cruz.

The Spanish steamer *Noc Daqui* has, it is reported, run ashore a cargo of negroes near Cienfuegos—1,180 are said to have been landed. The Government sent an officer down immediately. Tellucia and Foca, who have been known for a long time to be connected with the Slave-trade, went to call on the Captain-General, but were refused admittance. This leads us to suppose that the expedition belonged to them.

We have to-day a norther, quite a gale, which will prove prejudicial to the English ship *Colorado*, 1,200 tons, which came in from Liverpool this morning with a full cargo of coal to the Gas Company, and which got ashore on Cayo Chuz. She is on a rocky bed with a slight layer of mud on it, and some fears are entertained for her.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 24

THE M'DOWELL COURT OF INQUIRY.

In the McDowell Court of Inquiry to-day, Gen. Sigel underwent a searching cross-examination at the hands of Gen. McDowell, in which several discrepancies were shown between Gen. Sigel's official report to Gen. Pope and his evidence before this Court. Gen. Sigel explained these discrepancies by stating that his evidence was given from memory, and he might have been mistaken in some portions of his report. It will be recollected that Gen. Sigel has severely censured Gen. McDowell for alleged neglect to defend Thoroughfare Gap from the approach of Longstreet to join Jackson. It came out in evidence to-day that Gen. McDowell issued an order, which was sent to Gen. Sigel, and which Gen. Sigel admits made ample provisions for the defence of Thoroughfare Gap. Gen. Sigel did not remember the last part of the order referring to the disposition of other troops than his own, but was obliged to admit that it was his duty to have made himself acquainted with the whole order. It appears that McDowell defended the Gap with twice the force Sigel estimated should be put there, and Sigel did not know it.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Gov. Pierrepont has written the President a letter in regard to the admission of West Virginia as a State, in which he says that the refusal of the President to sign the bill will be a fatal blow to the loyalists of the State, and tantamount to their delivery to the tender mercies of the Richmond regency.

LOYAL INDIAN BRIGADE.

The Secretary of War has authorized the Indian Bureau to raise two additional Indian regiments, for service as a "Home Guard," in Southern Kansas and the Indian Territory. These regiments, when organized, will be incorporated with the three loyal Indian regiments already in the field, and the whole force consolidated into a brigade, which will probably be commanded by Judge Ewing, who at present is Colonel of a Kansas regiment. The command will be further augmented by the addition of two regiments of white troops. With this force, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs thinks the Indian Territory may be cleared of armed rebels, and the supremacy of the Government again restored among the Indian tribes in that region of country. The Indian regiments will all be officered by white field officers; Captains of companies will also be white men, the subordinate company officers to be chosen from among the Chiefs.

AMPUTATIONS ON THE BATTLE FIELD.

A large number of amputations were performed by the medical corps at Falmouth after the battle of Fredericksburgh. In all cases, where possible, these amputations were superintended either by the Surgeon-General in person, or by some one whom he could trust. The butchery practiced by some of the volunteer surgeons on the battle-field at Antietam will not be repeated again, if it lies in the power of Gen. Hammond to prevent it. Thigh-bone amputations, (which some medical butchers take especial delight in practicing, and which all surgical experiments have demonstrated to be impossible, if saving the life of the patient is the object to be attained,) by a recent order of the Surgeon-General, are positively forbidden.

A GOOD HAUL.

Several soldiers belonging to a New-Jersey regiment, on the recent advance of our army across the Rappahannock into Fredericksburgh, captured from the vaults of the Fredericksburgh Bank over $3,000 in ten and twenty-dollar gold pieces, and a large quantity of bank notes. For some days past the "shiners" have been circulating pretty freely among the soldiers and their *quondam* friends, the sutlers, located in the neighborhood of Falmouth.

THE PIRATE ALABAMA.

A letter just received here from an officer on board the *San Jacinto*, states that when the pirate *Alabama* left the port of Martinique, the Commander of the *San Jacinto* permitted the *Alabama* to escape, in a most cowardly manner. It is understood that the conduct of the officer is to be the subject of inquiry.

INDEMNITY.

The Committee on Foreign Relations has reported back the bill which, in accordance with the recommendation of the President, appropriates $14,309 13 in coin as full compensation to the owners of the Norwegian bark *Admiral P. Fordenskiold*, for damages to said bark for reason of being prevented from leaving the port of Charleston by the blockading squadron, she having entered innocently there during a brief interval, in which the blockading force was absent.

THE "CONTRABANDS."

Arrangements are being made whereby the large number of contraband women and children who have sought a refuge in this city will be properly cared for. It is proposed by the military authorities to appeal to the various benevolent associations in the Northern States to assist in procuring homes and employment for them, the Government to bear the expenses of their transportation to the various points to which they may be sent. An officer will probably visit the principal Northern cities, to lay the matter before the different benevolent societies, in order to ascertain the number for which each society may be able and willing to provide employment. All of the able-bodied male "contrabands" are employed by the Government at remunerative wages, and at present the demand for this kind of labor far exceeds the supply of laborers.

THE CURRENCY.

The following has been submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by leading financial men in New-York:

An Act to Reduce the Price of Coin and to Establish a uniform Currency and equal taxation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the United States notes issued, and to be issued, under an act entitled "An act to authorize the issue of United States notes and for the redemption or funding thereof, and for funding the floating debt of the United States," approved Feb. 25, 1862, be receivable in payment of all taxes, internal duties, excises, duties on imports, debts and demands of every kind due to the United States, and of all claims and demands against the United States, anything in the above-mentioned act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Undoubtedly there is a strong party both in Congress and the Committee which favors the policy of a uniform currency, good for all purposes.

NEW-JERSEY JUDGESHIP.

"Pet" Halstead is said to be urging the claims of his father for the Judgeship now vacant in New-Jersey.

MEDALS FOR THE ARMY.

In accordance with a law of last session, two hundred medals are being prepared, to be presented to such privates in the army as may distinguish themselves in the field. They should be hurried up.

RETURN OF MRS. LINCOLN.

Mrs. Lincoln, who has been absent from the city on a visit, returned here early this week.

WEDDING IMPENDING.

It is a well-founded belief here that Secretary Chase will soon lead to the hymeneal alter the accomplished widow of the late Senator Douglas.

DISABLED SOLDIERS.

About 200 disabled soldiers were yesterday discharged from the hospitals here by the Medical Inspectors, who pay regular visits to the hospitals for that purpose.

REBEL CAPTAINS CAPTURED.

Capt. Lawson, of the Fifty-fifth Virginia Regiment, was captured on Tuesday by our gunboats on the

lower Potomac. He was taken while trying to cross into Maryland, and has been sent to the Old Capitol Prison.

CHRISTMAS FOR SICK SOLDIERS.

Mrs. Secretary SMITH, as the result of her benevolent labors, distributed among the different hospitals, on Tuesday, 6,000 pounds of poultry, besides large quantities of other delicacies palatable to the sick, for a Christmas dinner, for which arrangements have been made in all of the hospitals here.

THE INDIANS.

Senator WILKINSON, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, has reported an important joint resolution:

Whereas, The Sioux or Dakotah nation of Indians have, by their murderous attacks for years upon the citizens of the United States, forfeited all claims to the right of occupancy of the extensive region heretofore held in their possession, and to annuities due or to become due under existing treaties; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the President of the United States declare all lands, rights of occupancy and annuities heretofore accorded to said Indians, forfeited to the United States, and that the President be authorized to select, far from the settlements of the whites, such tract or tracts of land as may be required for agricultural purposes, and to remove said Indians thereto, and to cause such measures to be taken as will enable said Indians to live as agriculturists.

RECOGNIZED.

The President has recognized GUILLERMO RUBE, of San Francisco, as Consul of the Republic of Guatemala, for the State of California.

APPOINTMENT.

Capt. JAMES A. FARRISH, of the Seventy-ninth Regiment, Highland Guard, has just been appointed by the Secretary of War, Paymaster in the United States Army. Capt. FARRISH was with his regiment at the first battle of Bull Run, was taken prisoner, and, along with Gen. COCORAN and others, confined in Richmond for over twelve months, until an interchange of prisoners took place.

APPOINTMENT OF EXAMINING SURGEONS.

The Commissioner of Pensions to-day made the following appointments of Examining Surgeons:

Dr. A. H. Ames, Lyons, Iowa.
Dr. O. B. Howell, Aurora, Ill.
Dr. F. S. C. Grayston, Huntington, Ind.
Dr. Stephen D. Ayres, Marion, Ind.
Dr. Townsend Ryan, Anderson, Ind.

SICK SENT OFF.

About five hundred convalescent soldiers, from the hospitals here, were sent to Northern hospitals to-day per railroad. About the same number will be sent to the same destination to-morrow.

TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

THE FINANCIAL PROJECT OF SECRETARY CHASE.

Secretary CHASE has sent to Representative STEVENS his financial project, recommending a loan of nine hundred millions of dollars, at rates of interest not exceeding those now authorized by law. The Secretary does not suggest any augmentation of Treasury notes. The Committee of Ways and Means have not yet considered the subject.

REVENUE DECISION.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that slaughtered hogs, weighing more than 150 pounds each, shall be estimated by the Assessors as exceeding six months old.

A TEAMSTER TO BE HUNG.

The President has approved of the sentence of the Court-martial held at Norfolk, for the hanging of FREDERICK SETZ, a teamster, who murdered a colored man at Camp Hamilton.

The Rise in the Price of Paper.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The recent rapid advance in the price of paper has elicited much comment, and some of the daily papers in this City have attributed this advance to a *combination* among the manufacturers and dealers in paper in connection with the "Paper Maker's Association." An article in your columns a few days since shows that you have fallen into this error. A brief explanation of the causes of the present high prices of paper may interest your readers and correct much misapprehension upon this subject. For some time before the war began the paper market was depressed, mainly from over-production, and for many months afterward the tendency was to still lower prices. This state of things was less disastrous to the paper makers in consequence of the low price of stock. The revival of business and the increased demand for paper for Government purposes, gave prices an upward tendency, and created a greater demand for rags and other stock used by paper makers. There are few branches of manufacturing where the raw material forms so large a per centage of the whole cost as in the manufacture of paper, especially of the quality used by the newspaper press. The ordinary annual production of paper in the United States for several years, is estimated at not less than 100,000 tons. To produce this quantity of paper would require more than 150,000 tons of stock, so great is the waste in manufacturing. This stock comes mainly from the following sources: 1st. Domestic rags saved by careful housewives. From this source paper makers obtain at least 65 per cent. of the whole quantity used. These rags are chiefly of *cotton* fabric. 2d. Foreign rags, both linen and cotton; from this source is obtained from 10 to 12½ per cent. 3d. Rope and bagging used in baling cotton, and the refuse of raw cotton from the cotton mills; this is estimated at about 10 per cent. The balance is made up mostly from old canvas and straw. This statement shows that domestic rags, with rope, bagging and cotton-waste, furnish about seventy-five per cent. of all the stock used in the manufacture of paper. Non-intercourse with the Cotton States has cut off the entire supply of rope, bagging and cotton-waste. The high price of cotton has greatly abridged the consumption of cotton goods. Old garments have been patched and worn which have heretofore gone into the rag-bag, and it must be borne in mind, that one million of men now in public service wear no cotton. Consequently, a large percentage has been cut off from this source. A new and unlooked-for competition has sprung up for the better quality of cotton rags from the manufacturers of colton goods and batting. Paper makers soon found that rags were becoming scarce, and they naturally began to look ahead, fearing that they might be unable to get stock for their mills. The demand being greater than the supply, prices advanced, and, as a consequence, the increased cost of paper raised the price. This alarmed the large *consumers* of paper, and *they* thought it necessary to look ahead. Thus, a combination of circumstances created great activity in the rag and paper market, and stock went up from 100 to 300 per cent. Foreign rags have advanced at least 100 per cent. Not less than 35 per cent. of the advance in the price of paper can be attributed to the depreciation of the currency and the Government Excise tax. The alarm of paper makers and paper consumers has doubtless been instrumental in causing a more rapid rise than would have otherwise taken place. The rag collectors and smaller dealers throughout the country refuse to sell, holding for higher prices. Some of the journals in this City which complain of the "combination of paper makers," to protect themselves against higher prices, have, by their own purchases, given an upward impulse to the market which they little dreamed of. The paper makers deprecate this state of things as much as the consumers. No branch of business is benefited by such violent fluctuations, and many of the men who are charged with combining to create a paper panic have large contracts to supply at former prices, while they have to pay the present high rates for stock, and consequently are suffering large losses. Paper makers are not and are now, free to buy stock and sell paper at just such prices as they choose without the control of the Paper Maker's Association or any combination of paper makers or paper dealers connected therewith. The only resolution passed at the meeting of the "Paper Maker's Association," relating to prices, was not obligatory, but simply a recommendation in regard to two or three qualities. Those prices were based upon the value of stock at that time, but the market soon advanced 50 per cent. above the rates named. But even if there had been an agreement in reference to prices, it would have given no just ground for complaint. Nothing is more common than such agreements. The proprietors of the newspaper Press have had conferences upon kindred topics, which afford a high precedent. Many of the writing-paper manufacturers, some months since, in view of the excise tax and the advance in stock, agreed to an advance in prices, and no one thought of criticising their action.

Those engaged in the trade are just as much in the dark as the paper consumers in regard to the future of supplies and prices. A MEMBER

Of the Paper-Makers' Association.

Murder at Lynn, Mass.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

NATHAN BREED, Jr., proprietor of a respectable grocery store in Lynn, Mass., was murdered last night by a young man named HORACE DAVIS. The murder was perpetrated in the store with a hatchet, while Mr. BREED was engaged in putting up some article which DAVIS had called for. DAVIS has been arrested.

IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTHWEST

A Raid of the Rebels Into Holly Springs.

The Small National Force There Overwhelmed.

Grand Junction and Memphis Threatened.

CAIRO, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Paroled prisoners taken at Holly Springs, arrived here, furnish the following facts:

On Thursday telegrams were received at Holly Springs from Jackson, saying the place was menaced by rebels, and asking for reinforcements. Friday morning all the troops, but about 800, were sent to Jackson. The same night, the commander at Holly Springs being apprised of rebels approaching that place, pickets were stationed three miles out on all the roads, but the rebels seem to have come in between the roads, as the pickets made no alarm. The first heard of the enemy, they were in town, firing at our sleeping men. Some resistance was made, but of course feeble. In a short time the Federals were overpowered, and compelled to surrender. The attack was made at daybreak. Two hundred Federals were reported killed and wounded, and 150 captured, who were afterward paroled. The balance escaped.

It is reported in Memphis that the Rebels have gone toward Grand Junction with the intention of tearing up the road, but nothing is known positively. At Holley Springs they burned large quantities of cotton, over two hundred wagons, a depot full of commissary stores, ammunition, &c., valued at $500,000. The number of rebels is estimated at 5,000, and are under VAN DORN.

A small rebel force made a raid on the suburbs of Memphis, Sunday night, pillaged several stores, carried off 100 cattle and 180 mules. Excitement in Memphis exists in consequence of a meeting called on Monday night to consider the best means of defence.

Gen. THOMAS has reached Helena, preparing to move down the river.

It is reported here to-night that JEFF. THOMPSON is moving on New-Madrid with 2,000 men, from Pocahontas, Ark., and that he was within forty miles of that place on Monday.

The rebel force operating in Northwestern Tennessee burned Union City and the bridge over the Onion last night. Every effort is being made to meet them.

IMPORTANT FROM THE PACIFIC.

The Revolution in Japan—The Tycoon Stripped of his Power—Russian Troops to Aid the Chinese in Putting Down the Rebellion.

SAN FRANCISCO, Tuesday, Dec. 23.

The British steamer *Scotland*, from Hong Kong on the 30th of October, Shanghai on the 8th of November, and Kanagawa on the 22d of November, has arrived at this port.

The *Scotland* is the pioneer of a new British line of steamers, which are to make a monthly trip between San Francisco, Japan and China. The charge for freight is $12 a ton, and for passengers $250 each.

The *Scotland* brings 700 tons of freight from China and 300 tons from Japan, principally teas.

The *Scotland* left 28 steamers and 175 sailing vessels in port at Shanghai.

It was rumored at Shanghai that a large body of Russian troops was coming from the Amoor to aid the Chinese Government in recapturing Ningpo and putting down the rebellion.

The Janez *Herald* of the 22d November, says that the revolution in Japan is complete.

The Tycoon had been stripped of nearly all his special privileges.

There was considerable inquiry, by the Japanese for steamships to establish a line between Oracova and Yokahama.

Amusements.

WINTER GARDEN.—For a holiday entertainment at the Winter Garden, Mr. and Mrs. BARNEY WILLIAMS give a revival of "The Lakes of Killarney," an Irish drama, which has been so constructed as to admit of its being put upon the stage in a framework of very beautiful scenery. The piece combines an interesting plot, of a domestic nature, (wherein several young persons do the usual amount of love-making,) with episodes of fairy intervention. Whenever the fairies appear, they are always surrounded by the most brilliant pictorial accessories; and themselves—in the persons of a large and well-appointed *corps de ballet*—present a series of specially attractive groupings. The dancing, indispensable to the existence of theatrical fairies, is led by Mr. G. F. BROWNE, a neat and graceful performer. Mr. and Mrs. BARNEY WILLIAMS, of course, play in the leading earthly parts, and the subordinate characters are capably supported by the regular company. "The Lakes of Killarney," as a spectacle, will afford unlimited delight to the young folks, and it possesses enough dramatic merit to amuse the play-goers of experience.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—The charming comic drama of "The Invisible Husband"—adapted by Mr. BOURCICAULT from SCRIBE'S "Giralda"—was reproduced at Wallack's New Theatre on Tuesday evening. Mr. LESTER WALLACK appears in the same part that he played so inimitably at the old theatre, and the balance of the distribution is nearly as good as it was when the piece was previously given. Mr. GEORGE HOLLAND makes *Gil*, the miller, more broadly, if not quite so delicately funny, than Mr. WALCOT did; no one could be more interestingly natural than Miss GANNON as *Giralda*, and Mr. MARK SMITH, Mr. C. FISHER and Miss MORANT are each admirable in their several characters. The drama itself is one of the most ingeniously constructed and irresistibly amusing of its kind, and will pleasantly alternate with the other attractive pieces of Mr. WALLACK'S "revival" repertory.

IRVING HALL.—HANDEL'S superb Oratorio of the "Messiah," will receive its annual performance to-night at the hands of the New-York Harmonic Society. The solo parts are intrusted to competent artists; a fine orchestra has been procured, and Mr. G. W. MORGAN will conduct.

Gold Pens.

FOLEY'S CELEBRATED GOLD PENS.
GOLD PENCILS.
PEN-HOLDERS, &c.,
Suitable for Holiday Presents.

No. 1 Pen	$1 00	No. 7 Pen	$2 50
No. 2 Pen	1 00	No. 8 Pen	3 00
No. 3 Pen	1 25	No. 9 Pen	3 25
No. 4 Pen	1 50	No. 10 Pen	3 50
No. 5 Pen	2 00	No. 11 Pen	4 00
No. 6 Pen	2 25	No. 13 Pen	3 00

Silver extension cases to fit the above Pens (with pencil) from 50c. to $2 each. Gold pencils, suitable for ladies and gentlemen, from $1 to $20 each. Any of the above goods will be sent by mail on receipt of price. A liberal discount will be made to shippers and dealers. For sale by stationers and jewelers everywhere.

JOHN FOLEY,
Gold Pen and Pencil-Case Manufacturer,
No. 169 Broadway.

Holiday Presents
of
AFFECTION AND CHARITY.
WHEELER & WILSON'S SEWING-MACHINES.
Highest Premium,
World's Fair, London, 1862.
See the recent improvements.
Office, No. 505 Broadway, New-York.

Boswell & Warner's Colorific

Will color the hair the most natural, durable and beautiful of any extant, and without any trouble, wash, or other preparation. Factory, No. 124 Grand-st., Brooklyn. Depôt, No. 62 John-st. Sold by Druggists and Hairdressers generally.

Corns, Bunions, Inverted Nails, Enlarged Joints and all diseases of the feet cured, without pain or inconvenience to the patient, by Dr. ZACHARIE, Surgeon Chiropodist, No. 760 Broadway.

The Palmer Arm and Leg.—B. FRANK PALMER, inventor and patentee. Astor-place, (ground floor) N. Y. Also Philadelphia and Boston. Only houses of Palmer & Co. Avoid imposition by calling on the inventor.

ALL THE WORLD CAN NOW SKATE!
Without Learning.
DUTTON'S
SHELL GROOVE SKATES!
(PATENTED APRIL 15, 1862.)
Everybody can at once Skate upon these
NOVEL AND BEAUTIFUL SKATES,
WITHOUT FATIGUE,
WITHOUT LEARNING,
WITHOUT DANGER.
UNLIKE ALL OTHER SKATES!
Perfectly
AVOIDING ALL STRAINING
of the
FEET AND ANKLES.
THEY ARE NATURAL SELF-SKATERS.
The only
LADIES' SKATE
Entirely approved of by the
MEDICAL FACULTY!
New Strap Fastening, without Buckles.
THE "NE PLUS ULTRA" OF ALL SKATES.
THE SHELL GROOVE SKATE
AT ONCE places the ART OF SKATING, within the reach of
EVERY PERSON,
THE MOST DELICATE.
LADIES AND CHILDREN
can readily use the SHELL GROOVE AT ONCE, and SKATE!
UPON THE FIRST TRIAL, WITHOUT DANGER AND WITHOUT FATIGUE.
For sale at TIFFANY'S, WALTON BROTHERS, and Skate Dealers. Manufactory, Utica, New-York.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething—Not only relieves the child from pain, but invigorates the stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and gives tone and vigor to the whole system. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

Scarfs, Ties, Robes,
HOSIERY AND GLOVES,
NEW GOODS AT OLD PRICES.
UNION ADAMS,
No. 637 Broadway, New-York City.

We should not suffer from a Cough,
Which a few doses of
AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL
Will cure.
Time, comfort, health, are all saved by it.

Heavy Knit All Wool
UNDERSHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
ON HAND AND MADE TO ORDER, BY
UNION ADAMS, No. 637 Broadway.

Climatic Adjuvant,
The world's remedy for
CONSUMPTION
And inflammation of the
THROAT, LUNGS
AND
BRONCHIAL PASSAGES,
MORGAN & ALLEN, Agents,
No. 46 Cliff-st., New-York.

Holiday Presents.—Elegant Cartes de Visite for $1, at CARY'S, No. 371 Canal-st., between Laurens and Wooster sts. Particular attention paid to making large Photographs from small ambrotypes and daguerreotypes.

Barry's Tricopherus is the best and cheapest article for dressing, beautifying, curling, cleaning, preserving and restoring the hair. Ladies, try it. Sold by all druggists.

As a Holiday Present, Nothing is more Useful and acceptable than a PUTNAM CLOTHES WRINGER. For sale at No. 13 Platt-st., New-York, and by special agents throughout the United States.

Morton's Gold Pens.—Prices to suit the pocket and pens to suit the hand of every writer at No. 25 Maiden-lane. Call or inclose stamp for circular, with engravings of all sizes and styles.

Persons Suffering from Diabetes, or Disease of the Kidneys, should not fail to use Constitution Water. Sold by all Druggists. Dépôt, No. 46 Cliff-st., N. Y.

MARRIED.

CHALMERS—SMITH.—In Charlton, Saratoga County, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, by Rev. Mr. Betts, WILLIAM CHALMERS, of West Galway, to MARIA, daughter of Archibald Smith, of Charlton.

GAMBLE—WOOD.—In Morristown, N. J., on Tuesday, Dec. 23, by Rev. R. N. Merritt, Capt. T. T. GAMBLE, U. S. V. C., and ELLA, daughter of Hon. Wm. N. Wood.

LANDON—PARISEN.—On Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. John C. Middleton, of Holy Trinity, GEORGE W. LANDON to EMILY M. PARISEN, all of Brooklyn. No cards issued.

☞ Washington, D. C., papers please copy.

LENT—STEVENSON.—On Wednesday morning, Dec. 24, by Rev. G. Alex. Peltz, D. D., at the Pilgrim's Baptist Church, Dr. NATHANIEL W. LENT to MARY AMELIA STEVENSON, daughter of the late James E. Betts, Esq., of this City.

MERWIN—BYERS.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, at the Church of the Memorial, by Rev. E. B. T. Cook, GEORGE P. MERWIN, of Milford, Conn., to ANNA E., second daughter of Samuel H. Byers, of this City. No cards.

MAYNARD—WHITE.—On Tuesday, Dec. 23, EDWIN MAYNARD, of Northampton, Mass., to CORNELIA, youngest daughter of the late George F. White, of this City.

PONE—SHIPMAN.—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday, Dec. 24, by Rev. Wm. Ives Buddington, D. D., B. F. POND to HATTIE D. SHIPMAN.

PROVOST—HAVILAND.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. Robert Aikman, Dr. D. E. PROVOST, of Sing Sing, to Miss SARAH O., daughter of Luke Haviland, Esq., of this City.

STAPLE—ARNOLD.—On Monday, Dec. 22, by Right Rev. Bishop Southgate, ALBERT U. STANLEY to VIRGINIA A., daughter of Lemuel Arnold, Esq., both of this City.

☞ Cleveland, Ohio, papers please copy.

VEITCH—RHODES.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, at the residence of the bride's parents, by Rev. C. F. Smith, CHARLES W. VEITCH to ANASTASIA W. RHODES, only daughter of Josiah Rhodes, all of this City. No cards.

VROOM—RIDDLE.—In Jersey City, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, by Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., GUYSBERT BOGART VROOM to KATE B., daughter of the officiating clergyman.

WESTERFIELD—RADFORD.—On Tuesday, Dec. 23, at the residence of the bride's parents, by Rev. J. F. Newman, of the Washington-square M. E. Church, JAMES W. WESTERFIELD to CARRIE, eldest daughter of Lewis Radford, all of this City.

DIED

BALDWIN.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, of chronic bronchitis, Mrs ALICIA W. BALDWIN, wife of James M. Baldwin, Esq., and daughter of Isabella and Joseph Mount, deceased, and adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philo T. Ruggles.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral services, on Friday, the 26th inst., at 12 o'clock noon, at the Astor-place Hotel, No. 733 Broadway, New-York. The remains will be taken for interment, to Orange, N. J.

BROWN.—On Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, GEORGE FRANKLIN BROWN, son of George and Eliza Brown, in the 26th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his parents, No. 153 Henry-st., on Friday, at 3 o'clock P. M.

CLARK.—In Staten Island, on Wednesday, Dec. 24, JAMES GUION CLARK, Jr., son of Dr. James G. and Maria T. Clark, aged 11 months.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of the parents, on Friday, the 26th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

CHERBULIEZ.—In New-Rochelle, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, of congestion of the lungs, EMILE, youngest child of David and Isabella Cherbuliez, aged 15 months and 8 days.

The funeral will take place at Christ Church, Pelham, this day, (Thursday,) at 2 P. M.

EMERSON.—In this City, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, EDWARD B. EMERSON, son of the late Rev. Samuel M. Emerson, and son-in-law of the late Hon. Henry Shaw, aged 40 years.

Funeral at the house corner of 35th-st. and Park-av., on Friday next, at 3 o'clock. His friends are respectfully requested to attend, without further notice.

GOODRICH.—In Utica, on Friday, Dec. 19, MARGARET, wife of Rev. Chauncey E. Goodrich, and daughter of the late Wm. G. Tracy, of Whitesboro, aged 59 years.

JOHNSON.—In Newark, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, suddenly, HERMON G. JOHNSON, aged 53 years.

The relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral, on Friday, the 26th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M., at his late residence, No. 169 Mulberry-st.

NOSTRAND.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, CLARENCE R., son of John and Catherine Ann Nostrand, of Flushing, L. I., aged 3 years and 9 months.

The funeral will take place this day, Dec. 25, at 2 o'clock, from the residence of his parents.

NICHOLSON.—On Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, WILLIS, only son of John and Meriam Nicholson, aged 1 year and 11 months.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his parents, No. 818 Greenwich-st., this day, (Thursday,) at 1 P. M.

TIEMANN.—On Tuesday, Dec. 23, ANTHONY TIEMANN, father of Ex-Mayor Tiemann, in the 84th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, on Friday, the 26th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M., from the 27th-st. M. E. Church, between 2d and 3d ave., without further notice.

WINANS.—On Wednesday, Dec. 24, FRANK KENT, son of Henry H. and Sabetha Winans, aged 5 years.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this day, (Thursday,) the 25th inst., at 3 o'clock, from the residence of his parents, No. 40 West 54th-st., without further invitation.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO.'S KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.

KENTUCKY. EXTRA CLASS 609.—Dec. 24, 1862.
19, 70, 54, 53, 51, 34, 57, 60, 55, 28, 39, 65.

KENTUCKY, CLASS 610—Dec. 24, 1862.
9, 21, 55, 36, 60, 56, 34, 49, 16, 22, 13, 26.

Circulars sent free of charge by addressing either to MURRAY, EDDY & CO.
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

LOTTERIES.—PRIZES CASHED AND INFORMation given. JOSEPH BATES, Broker, No. 11 Wall-st., Room No. 1, New-York.

LOTTERIES.—SEE J. A. MORRIS & CO.'S ADVertisement on eighth page.

CALIFORNIA DIAMONDS,
Which look as well as the real Diamonds, in Ear-Rings, Pins and Finger-Rings, just received and for sale by
GEO. C. ALLEN,
415 Broadway, one door below Canal-st.

JOHN HOOPER & CO.,
CITY AND COUNTRY ADVERTISING AGENTS,
No. 41 Park-row, New-York,
New-York *Times* Building.

J. H. & Co. are inserting advertisements in all Newspapers published in the United States and British Provinces. A careful selection of papers is made, adapted to any business, and the ADVERTISING is done in the best possible manner, saving time, trouble and expense to the advertiser. MERCHANTS, BANKERS, BROKERS, STEAMSHIP and RAILROAD AGENTS, and business men generally, wishing to extend their trade, are respectfully invited to call at the office, No. 41 Park-row, and examine papers and prices.

Nearly all newspapers published throughout the country are received and filed at this office.

REFERENCES.—Messrs. H. J. Raymond & Co., publishers of the New-York *Times*, and the publishers of the leading newspapers throughout United States and Canada.

BOLD STROKE!!

An extensive Troy Collar manufacturer now offers to the public, at retail, through Messrs. J. H. BLAKE & CO., No. 379 Broadway, 10,000 dozen *best* quality fine linen 3 and 4 ply Collars, at $1 75 per dozen, or 15 cents each—the best make of collars in market, and warranted fully equal to any sold at $3. *The ordinary fine Linen Collar usually sold on Broadway at* $2 50, *we are selling at* $1 40 *per doz., or* 12 *cents single.* See samples at the door. Also, closing out an immense stock of Gents' SCARFS and TIES, new and choice styles, 25 to 50 cents *less* than they can possibly be obtained at elsewhere.

GLOVES in endless variety—the best KID GLOVE in New-York at $1. UNDERSHIRTS and DRAWERS, &c., &c., all at prices which no other house can possibly name. Why? Answer—because we are "Headquarters." All who buy of us save one profit.

J. H. BLAKE & CO., No. 379 Broadway, corner White-st.

SALLOU'S
PATENTED
F. Y. S.
French Yoke
SHIRTS
WARRANTED
TO FIT.
Send for a
Circular.
SALLOU BROS.,
No. 403 Broadway,
New-York.
For sale by all the principal dealers through the UNITED STATES.

PERFUMED CAMPHOR ICE,
WITH GLYCERINE, is the BEST REMEDY for CHAPPED HANDS, LIPS, Fever Sores, Sunburn, etc.
Prepared and sold by
J. CLEMENT RUSHTON,
Chemist and Druggist, No. 417 Broadway,
Corner Canal-st.
Price 25 cents per box. Sent by mail on receipt of 30 cents.
Sold by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Dealers.

CHAPPED HANDS, FACE, LIPS, SUNBURN, &c.—Certain and immediate cure.—HEGEMAN & CO.'S Camphor Ice with Glycerine, if used according to the directions, will keep the hands soft in the coldest weather. Price, 25 cents. Sold by Druggists. Sent by mail on receipt of 30 cents.
HEGEMAN & CO., Chemists and Druggists, N. Y.

"THEIR NAME IS LEGION" MAY BE applied to those who die annually of Consumption. Science has of late years sensibly diminished the number, and it is gratifying to know that Dr. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY has created a potent influence in attaining this end.

☞ Buy none unless it has the written signature of "I. Butts" on the wrapper.

FRENCH CHINA DINNER SETS,
HANDSOMELY DECORATED, from $60 upward.
FRENCH CHINA TEA SETS, from $12 upward.
WHITE FRENCH CHINA TEA SETS, $4 per set.
We have the largest and
FINEST ASSORTMENT OF THE ABOVE GOODS that has ever been in the City, and we respectfully invite the attention of buyers.
ALSO,
An immense variety of FANCY GOODS, specially imported and manufactured for the Holidays, such as PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, CARICATURE FIGURES, PARIAN STATUARY, FRENCH CLOCKS and MANTEL ORNAMENTS, DRESSING-TABLE SETS, STERLING SILVER and SILVER-PLATED WARE, &c., &c.
"SPECIAL NOTICE."
We shall, in a few days, open a LARGE INVOICE OF HANDSOME TOILET SETS, which we intend to offer
AT GREAT BARGAINS, VIZ.:
GOLD BAND TOILET SETS, 11 pieces....$5 50 per set.
COLORED BAND TOILET SETS, 11 pieces.5 00 per set.
WHITE TOILET SETS, 11 pieces.....3 25 per set.
Samples shown and orders booked now for delivery when opened.
B. V. HAUGHWOUT & CO.,
488, 490 and 492 BROADWAY, cor. Broome-st.

YOU WOULD BE ASTONISHED!!
AT WHAT, PRAY?
To learn at what moderate prices Mr. HART sells his
PLATED GOODS.
Indeed they are
BROADWAY GOODS AT BURLING-SLIP PRICES.
And it pays to go a little out of the way to trade with him.

The above remarks were recently overheard; made by two of our well-known citizens.
The public can test the matter by calling on
LUCIUS HART,
Nos. 4 and 6 Burling-slip.

SEE GIMBREDE'S NEW STYLE
WEDDING CARDS.
See the new style Wedding Envelopes.
See the matchless variety of Note Paper.
See the new patterns of Note Paper.
See the Auto-photograph Album.
See the $4 Album reduced to $3.
See the fresh stock of Lippincott's Splendid Albums, (wood covers, etc.)
588 BROADWAY, (Metropolitan Hotel.

SLEEVE BUTTONS & STUDS, NEW STYLES.
SOME AS LOW AS
One, Two and Three Dollars a set, at
G. C. ALLEN'S,
No. 415 Broadway, one door below Canal-st.

SKATES! SKATES!! SKATES!!!
We have added to our establishment a salesroom for RETAILING SKATES only, where we offer at reasonable prices a very complete assortment for men, women and children.
PATTERSON BROTHERS,
Importers of Hardware,
No. 27 Park-Row.
Illustrated price list furnished on application.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY
OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, FOR SALE BY
GEO. C. ALLEN, No. 415 Broadway,
one door below Canal-st.,
formerly No. 11 Wall-st.

EAR-RINGS AND PINS.
NEW STYLES, SOME AS LOW AS
TWO, THREE AND FIVE DOLLARS A SET,
at G. C. ALLEN'S, No. 415 Broadway,
one door below Canal-st

WEDDING CARDS
These Celebrated Engraved Cards sold only at J. EVERDELL'S Old Establishment, 302 Broadway, cor. Duane St., N. Y.
Established 1840. ☞ For Specimen by Mail, send two stamps.

GENTLEMEN'S SCARF PINS, NEW STYLES.
Some as low as ONE, TWO and THREE DOLLARS each, at G. C. ALLEN'S,
No. 415 Broadway, one door below Canal-st.

SEASONS.
I have just completed my large and extensive stock of Fall and Winter Clothing, not surpassed, as to variety, taste and style, in this City. The children's and furnishing department not equaled. All of which will be sold at very low prices. Please call.
F. B. BALDWIN, Nos. 70 and 72 Bowery.
THE LARGEST STORE IN THE CITY.

LADIES' BAND AND LINK BRACELETS,
SOME AS LOW AS
TWO, THREE, FIVE AND SIX DOLLARS EACH,
At G. C. ALLEN'S, No. 415 Broadway,
One door below Canal-st,

FROST-BITTEN FEET.
Chilblains, frost-bitten and cold feet, the Galvano-electro Metallic Insoles are a perfect cure and preventive. Price $1. Sent per mail, $1 25. METTAM & CO., No. 429 Broadway. Send for circular.

"A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight."
J. L. BROWN'S STANDARD SCALES—Warranted accurate and durable. A full supply, adapted to every branch of business, constantly in store, at wholesale and retail, by R. BROWN, Manufacturer,
No. 3 Barclay-st., opposite Astor House

THERE IS NOTHING SUPERIOR TO VAN DEUSEN'S KORNESTERON for rejuvenating wasted and decayed hair, or restoring gray hair to its primitive color. For sale at Nos 266 and 773 Broadway, and No. 175 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, or wholesale, by R. WATROUS, General Agent, No. 96 Chambers-st.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A NEW BOOK
FOR
THE HOLIDAYS.

THE MONITOR;
OR,
JOTTINGS OF A NEW-YORK MERCHANT AROUND THE GLOBE.

BY WILLIAM HOFFMAN.

Embracing observations, experiences, and glimpses at the varied countries of the world, in a journey of over 30,000 miles!

An attractive holiday present for all readers, both young and old.

A large handsome 12mo. volume, beautifully illustrated, on tinted paper, and elegantly bound in cloth. Price $1 50.

For sale by all Booksellers.
CARLETON, Publisher, New-York,
Corner Broadway and Lispenard-st.

TWO BEAUTIFUL BOOKS
FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE.

Just published—the two handsomest and cheapest juveniles of the season, entitled
SPECTACLES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.
Vol. I. BOSTON. Vol. II. ST. PETERSBURGH.
Price 75 cents each.

These charming little books are written by a sister of the late Gen. Lander, are more fully illustrated than any other new juveniles, having tinted frontispiece, illustrated title pages, with many half-page cuts, and are elegantly printed and bound in fancy colors, making altogether the most attractive books for young folks for the holidays.

CARLETON, Publisher, New-York,
Corner Broadway and Lispenard-st.
Boston: Walker, Wise & Co.

NEW HOLIDAY BOOKS

READY THIS WEEK.

I.
ILLUSTRATIONS TO LES MISERABLES.

A superb small quarto on tinted paper, elegantly bound, containing 26 magnificent photographic illustrations of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables." The illustrations after the original designs by G. Brion, who has already created a sensation in Paris by these masterpieces of illustrative painting. Price $3, elegantly bound in cloth, beveled boards, and $5 in antique morocco.

II.
ALDRICH'S POEMS.

A charming little volume in blue and gold binding. The first complete edition, including "The Ballad of Babie Bell." Price $1, with a Steel Portrait.

III.
THE KING'S BELL.

An exquisite mediæval Legend, in verse, by RICHARD H. STODDARD, author of "Songs of Summer." Tinted paper, beveled boards, cloth. Price 75 cents.

IV.
TRANSITION.

A Remembrance of Emma Whiting, by Hugh Smith Carpenter, one vol., elegantly printed on tinted paper. Price $1.

☞ These books are sold by all booksellers, and sent by mail *free*, on receipt of price, by
CARLETON, Publisher, New-York,
Corner Broadway and Lispenard-st.

ECLECTIC MAGAZINE
FOR 1863.
THE JANUARY NUMBER IS READY.

1. It is embellished with TWO BEAUTIFUL STEEL-PLATE ENGRAVINGS. One of them is the finest plate ever in the "Eclectic." Both are historic prints.
2. The Table of Contents is enriched with TWENTY-EIGHT Articles.
3. This Number begins a NEW VOLUME. It is a good time to subscribe.
4. No Magazine contains so much artistic beauty and literary wealth.
5. The ECLECTIC for one year is equal to three entire British Quarterlies.
6. It contains the cream of British Periodical Literature.
7. Every intelligent family, every young lady and gentleman, who would store their minds with valuable knowledge, should read the ECLECTIC.
8. A PREMIUM PRINT, WORTH TWO DOLLARS, is offered to each new subscriber who pays in advance.
9. The Terms are FIVE DOLLARS, in advance.
THE JANUARY NUMBER IS READY.
Address W. H. BIDWELL,
No. 5 Beekman-st., New-York.

INTUITIONS
AND
SUMMARIES OF THOUGHT.
BY C. N. BOVEE.

In two vols. Choicely Printed at the Riverside Press, and elegantly bound in Scholar's style. 16mo. $2.

To the numerous extracts already given from unusually favorable notices in journals of high character as organs of scholarly opinion, the publisher adds the following:

A wonderful collection of thought, of unusual value. [*Hartford Press.*

These are capital volumes, beautifully printed, and full of fine thought.—*Eastern Argus.*

Here is much originality of thought.—*Buffalo Express.*

One of the cleverest and most agreeable books of the kind produced in our language for many years.—*New-York Post.*

The contents are brief observations, generally containing some fresh and striking thought, expressed in clear and elegant language.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

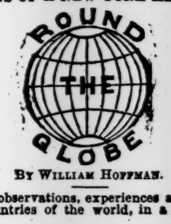
Remarkable for originality of ideas, and for force and conciseness of expression.—*Worcester Palladium.*

Opened at any page, one is certain to find something instructive, entertaining or amusing.—*Home Journal.*

WM. VEAZIE, Publisher, Boston.
SHELDON & CO., New-York.

A NEW BOOK
FOR
THE HOLIDAYS.

THE MONITOR;
OR,
JOTTINGS OF A NEW-YORK MERCHANT



BY WILLIAM HOFFMAN.

Embracing observations, experiences and glimpses at the varied countries of the world, in a journey of over 30,000 miles!

An attractive holiday present for all readers, both young and old.

A large, handsome 12mo. volume, beautifully illustrated on tinted paper, and elegantly bound in cloth. Price $1 50.

For sale by all Booksellers.
CARLETON, Publisher, New-York,
Corner Broadway and Lispenard-st.

BOOKSELLERS AND THE PUBLIC.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange...Dec. 24, 1862.

$3,000	U. S. 6s '81..Cou.	102¾	250	Pacific Mail S. Co.	134
43,000	U. S. 6s '74..Cou.	91¾	400	do	133
26,000	Treas. 7.3.10 p. ct. Notes	101¾	450	do	133¾
5,000	U. S. D. N.	b30. 127	40	do	133⅜
5,000	do	126¾	50	do	b3. 133½
1,000	Ill. Cou B, '70	105	380	do	b30. 133
1,000	Mich. 7s, W. L.	108	50	do	b3. 133
2,000	Tenn. St. 6s, '90	63¾	550	N. Y. Cen. R.	103¼
7,000	N. Car. State 6s	70	200	Erie Railway	62½
1,000	Mo. St. 6s	82¾	100	do	62¾
2,000	do	83¾	650	do	b30 62¾
4,000	do	82¾	300	Erie Railway Pref.	94⅜
1,000	N. Y. Cen. 6s	110	50	do	b30 94⅜
8,000	Erie 4th M. Bds	101	260	Mich. Cen. R.	s10 94½
1,000	H. & L. Conv. Bds.	97	100	Hudson River R.	76¾
2,000	Mich. Cen. 8s Cn. 1st M. S. F. Bs	116	450	do	77
6,000	Mich. So. 2d M.	93	200	Harlem Railroad	22¾
2,500	Ill. Cen. R. Bds	110¾	500	Michigan Cent. R.	91¾
4,500	A. & T. H. Inc. Bds.	69	100	Harlem R. Pref.	s60 52
3,000	do	69¾	100	do	52¾
15,000	C. & N. W. Asst. Bs.	62	20	Nor. & Wor. R.	73
26,000	C. & N. W. 2d M.	33	150	M. So. & N. Ind. R.	s15 40¾
5,000	do	33¾	360	do	40¾
12,000	Tol. & W. 2d M.	81	200	do	40⅝
1,000	Ch. & N. W. I. Bs.	88	200	do	b30 40¾
3,000	M. & P. D. C. 1st M.	105	50	Mich. So. & N. I. G. S.	83
1,000	Chic. & R. I. B.	111	200	Ill. Central R. S.	b30 79
3,000	Cl. & Tol. S. F.	103¾	50	do	s15 78¾
1,000	Pitts., Ft. W. & C.	2m 94	30	Panama Railroad	170
20,000	Clev. & Pitts.	4m 78	100	Cleve. & Pitts R.	b60 48¾
5,000	do	73¾	500	do	b30 48¾
50	Am. Ex. Bank	95	200	do	b30 48¾
10	Park Bank	119	150	Gal. & Chic. R.	82¾
2,300	American Gold	132	1000	Clev. & Tol. R.	72¾
41,000	do	132⅜	1500	do	72¾
150	Del. & H. Ca.	119	100	do	s10 72¾
40	Del., Lack. & W. R.	130	40	Chic. & Rock Isld R	81¾
200	Tol., Wab. & W. R.	36	60	Chi., & Bur. Quin. R	86¾
100	P. Ft. W. & Chi. R.	b30 54	150	do	87
350	Alt. & T. Haute R.	23	145	Mil. & Pr. Du Chi R.	33
45	do	23¾	250	do	33¾
150	Alt., & T. H. 2d Pref.	48			

THIRD BOARD—1 P. M.

At Room No. 23 William-street.

$67,000	Amer. Gold	132	50	Hud. River R.	77
35,000	do	s20. 131¾	100	do	s10 76¾
27,000	Mo. St. 6s	52⅛	100	Mich. Central R.	91¾
100	Penn. Coal Co	117	100	do	91¾
500	do	116¾	200	do	91¾
100	Pac. M. Steam Co	133¾	100	Mich. Southern	40¾
50	do	133½	300	do	40¾
900	Erie R.	62¾	50	M. South. Guar. Stk.	83
300	do	62⅝	50	do	83
100	do	b10 62¾	300	Clev. & Tol. R.	72¾
200	do	s30 62			

FOURTH BOARD—4 P. M.

At Room No. 23 William-street.

$1,000	U. S. 6s '81, Cou	163	50	Hudson R. R.	77
10,000	do	102¾	100	do	76¾
10,000	Treas. 7.3.10 p. ct. Notes	101⅜	300	Harlem R.	22¾
30,000	Amer. Gold	132⅜	260	Mich. Cen. R.	s10 91¾
50,000	do	132¼	100	do	s30 91¾
65,000	U. S. Dm. N.	126⅝	550	M. Southern R.	40¾
64	Pac. M. St. Co	133⅝	100	M. So. Guar. Stock.	83
150	do	133½	100	Clev. & Pitts. R	48¾
300	do	s10. 133⅜	700	do	48¾
400	do	133⅝	100	do	48¾
300	N. Y. Cen. R.	103⅜	800	do	49
150	do	103¾	350	Gal. & Chi. R.	82¾
100	do	b4 103¾	800	Clev. & Toledo R.	72¾
450	Erie Railway	62¾	100	do	s60 72
100	do	b10 62¾	950	Chic. & R. I. R.	81¾
100	Erie Railway Pref.	94¾	50	Mil. & P. du C. 2d P.	81¾

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24—P. M.

The Stock Exchange made half a holiday of Christmas Eve. The business at the regular Board terminated at noon. Speculation was generally dull, and but little was lost or gained by the early adjournment. The new Public Board held a session at 3½ o'clock P. M., in place of their usual hour, but the transactions were not of sufficient importance to change the tenor of prices on the printed sales of the morning. The prevailing disposition on the Street was to do as little business as possible until after the holidays. The adjournment of Congress, yesterday, to the 5th of January, leaves the financial question at Washington in abeyance until that time. It will also afford the Secretary of the Treasury the opportunity to visit this City and consult the banking and other financial opinions of the monied Metropolis of the country, in reference to the practical ways and means for raising money for the prosecution of the War. The sales at the early Board were not essentially varied from the latest transactions of Tuesday, except on Pacific Mail, which fell off 2½@3 ₱ cent. after the recent extraordinary rise. The railway shares were generally about the same as at the close of business last night. Later in the day the market left off without speculative animation, but with no disposition to press sales on the calculation of lower prices after Christmas. The following were about the last figures compared with Tuesday afternoon, the general market closing rather firmer than in the forenoon:

	Tues.	Wed.		Tues.	Wed.
U. S. 6s, 1881	102¾	102¾	Missouris	51⅜	52⅜
Treas. 7.30 ₱ cts.	101¾	101⅞	Tennessees	54	53⅜
U.S. Notes C. H.	126⅜	126⅞	Harlem	22⅜	22¼
American Gold	132⅛	132	Illinois Central	79	79
N. Y. Central	103⅛	103¼	Toledo	72¼	72⅜
Erie Common	62⅜	62⅝	Pittsburgh	48¼	48⅞
Erie Preferred	94⅜	94⅜	Rock Island	81¾	81⅝
Hudson	76¾	77	Galena	82½	82⅝
Mich. Cent. x. d.	91¾	91½	Pacific	135½	133⅜
Mich. Southern	40¾	40⅝	Panama	170	168
Mich. Guarant'd.	83	83	Harlem Pref.	53¼	52⅜

The following are the bids made to-day for the City Bank Shares:

New-York	102	American Exchange	95
Manhattan	130	Bank of the Republic	100
Merchants'	98	Bank of N. America	97½
Mechanics'	107	Hanover	87
Union	105	Irving	79
America	113	East River	90
Phœnix	100	Shoe and Leather	100
North River	98	Continental	90
State of New-York	97	St. Nicholas	92
Commerce	97	Park	119
Broadway	140		

And the following for the Railway Mortgages, most of which continue in fair demand:

N. Y. Cen. 7s, '64	105	T. H. & A. seconds pref.	85
Erie thirds, '83	103¾	Chi. & N. W. seconds	33
Erie fourths, '80	100¾	Han. & St. Jo. firsts	56
Erie fifths, '85	97	Del., Lack. & W. 1sts	114
Buf., N. Y. & Erie, '77	94	Del., Lack. & W. 2nds.	109
Hudson thirds, '75	107	Tol. & Wab. firsts	99
Hud. & Harl. 7s, '60	97	Tol. & Wab. seconds	81
Hud. & Harl. seconds, '64	104	Tol. & Wab. Int. Bds	85
Harlem thirds, '60	90	Mil. & P. du C. 1sts	104½
Mich. Cen. 8's, '62-72	113	Mil. & P. du C. 2nds	85
Mich. Cen. 8's, '69	110	Clev. & Tol. s. f.	93¾
Chi. Bur. & Q. 7's, c. 1875	117¾	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 1sts	108
Mich. So. 7's, c. 2ds	93	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 2ds	94½
N. Ind. Gosh. Line	102	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 3ds	69¾
Mich. S. & N. Ind. s. f. 7's, c.	102¾	Clev. & Pitts. 2ds	102
Ill. Cen. 7's, c.	75	Clev. & Pitts. 3ds	89
St. L., Alt. & T. H. 1sts	101½	Clev. & Pitts. 4ths	74

We hear of no changes to-day in the Money market. The usual Holiday dullness is complained of on the Street. At 6 ₱ cent. the supply of money is easy to the leading brokers.

The earnings of the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad Company, for the week ending Dec. 21, 1862, were as follows:

1862	$34,644
Last year	23,119
Increase	$11,525

The Citizens' Gas Company, of Brooklyn, has declared a dividend of 3 ₱ cent., payable Jan. 15.

Mr. GEO. M. DAVIS, No. 47 Exchange-place, will pay the interest coupons maturing Jan. 1, 1863, on the First Mortgage 10 ₱ cent. Bonds of the Sacramento, Placer and Nevada Railroad Company of California.

The Park Bank has declared a semi-annual dividend of four ₱ cent., free from Government tax, payable on and after Jan. 2.

Bank Statement.

BOSTON, Tuesday, Dec. 23.

The Weekly Bank Statement is as follows:

Capital Stock	$38,231,70 0
Loans and Discounts	17,060,00 0
Specie	7,685,00 0
Deposits	33,786,00 0
Circulation	8,006,00 0
Due from other Banks	13,538,00 0
Due to other Banks	16,464,00 0

Philadelphia Stock Board.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Stocks steady. Pennsylvania State Fives, 95¼; Reading Railroad, 37⅝; Morris Canal, 52⅜; Long Island Railroad, 21¾; Pennsylvania Railroad, 58; Sight Exchange on New-York at par.

Markets.

CINCINNATI, Tuesday, Dec. 23.

FLOUR quiet, and quotations nominal. WHISKY, 27c. Dressed Hogs, $4 10@4 60; receipts last week, 2,000; receipts ahead of last year, 200,000. Mess Pork, $10 75@$11. LARD, 9½c. in kegs, 8¾c. in bbls.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

FLOUR dull and drooping. WHEAT dull; White 2c.@3c. CORN declined: New 2c. WHISKY 2c. PROVISIONS firm; Mess Pork $15. SUGAR heavy.

GENERAL MARKETS.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1862—6 P. M.

The receipts of the principal kinds of Produce, since our last, have been: 50 bbls. Ashes, 4,757 bbls. Flour, 410 bbls. Corn Meal, 213 bushels Rye, 1,000 bushels Barley, 1,438 bushels Malt, 2,499 bushels Oats, 4,150 pkgs. Provisions, and 159 bbls. Whisky.

ASHES—Continue dull and heavy, at $8 50 for Pots and $8 25 for Pearls, ₱ 100 lbs.

COFFEE—Sales: 30 bags Rio at 30½c., and 50 bags St. Domingo at 27c. ₱ lb.

COTTON—Sales were heavier, to-day, comprising 1,200 bales at 66c.@66½c. for Middlings ₱ lb.

FLOUR AND MEAL—State and Western Flour has been in moderate request at somewhat firmer prices. The reported sales, since our last, comprise 9,000 bbls., including Superfine State at $5 70@$5 90; poor to choice extra State at $6@$6 35, chiefly at $6 05@$6 20; Superfine Western, inferior to choice at $5 65@$5 85; round hoop extra Ohio, shipping brands, at $6 65@$6 75 ₱ bbl.

Superfine State	$5 70	@$5 90
Extra State	6 00	@ 6 35
Superfine Western	5 65	@ 5 85
Extra Illinois Indiana, Michigan, &c.	6 10	@ 8 25
Extra Ohio, round hoop, shipping brds	6 65	@ 6 75
Extra Ohio, trade brands	6 80	@ 8 25
Extra Genesee	6 40	@ 8 50
Inferior to Choice Extra Missouri	6 50	@10 00

Southern Flour is doing better; sales of 850 bbls., at $6 65@$7 10 for poor to good superfine Baltimore, &c.; $7 15@$8 75 for fancy to choice brands, and $8 75@$10 for very superior family brands, ₱ bbl. Canadian Flour is unchanged; sales 600 bbls. Extra, at $6 05@$8 ₱ bbl. Rye Flour continues quiet at $3 60@$5 40 for fine and superfine, ₱ bbl. Corn Meal is in moderate request at $3 80@$3 85 for Jersey; $4 50 for Marsh's Caloric, and $4 45@$4 50 for Brandywine, ₱ bbl. Buckwheat Flour, $2 75@$3 10 ₱ 100 lbs.

GRAIN—Wheat has been in pretty fair request, and prices have favored holders. Sales since our last of 56,000 bushels, including White Western, at $1 50; Amber Western at $1 42@$1 43; Red Western, (White), at $1 37@$1 41; Amber Iowa and Wisconsin, $1 34@$1 37; Milwaukee Club at $1 25@$1 33; Chicago Spring at $1 20@$1 27, and Amber State at $1 45 ₱ bush. Corn continues in active request at advanced prices. Sales, since our last, 140,000 bushels at 77c.@78½c. for shipping Mixed Western; 72c.@76c. for Eastern Mixed do.; 65c.@71c. for unsound; 80c. for yellow Western, and 82c. for white do., ₱ bushel. Rye is inactive at 85c@95c., according to quality, ₱ bushel. Oats are in less demand, including Canada at 68c.@70c.; Western at 69c.@71c., and State at 70c.@71c., ₱ bushel. Barley is in demand at $1 15@$1 37 ₱ bushel. Sales 6,000 bushels.

HAY—North River is salable and firm at 75c.@90c. ₱ 100 lbs.

HOPS—New Crop continue in fair demand, in part for export, at from 16c.@25c. ₱ lb.

HIDES—Have been quiet at unchanged prices. Stock, 148,000, against 293,000 same time last year.

LUMBER—The inquiry for Eastern Spruce and Pine continues active at buoyant prices.

PROVISIONS—Pork has been in moderate demand, and sales have been made of 1,500 bbls. at $14 12½c. 2@$14 25 for Mess, and $11 62½@$12 50 for prime, ₱ bbl. Cut Meats are in less demand, at 7¾c. @8c. for Hams, and 5c.@5¾c. for Shoulders, ₱ lb. Bacon continues in brisk request at 7½c.@9¾c. ₱ lb.; sales, 2,100 boxes. Lard is steady to-day; sales 1,850 tcs. and bbls., at 9½c.@10c. ₱ lb. Beef continues in fair demand, at former rates; sales, since our last, 450 bbls. at $13@$14 for Extra Mess, and $11 50@$13 for Plain Mess, ₱ bbl. Prime Mess, $20@$22 ₱ tierce; India Mess, $25@$26 ₱ tce. Beef Hams, $13@$15 50 ₱ bbl. Butter continues in immediate request at 15c. @20c. for poor to choice Western, and 21c. @26c. for common to choice State, ₱ lb. Cheese rules quiet, at 10c. @13c. ₱ lb.

SALT—Has been in moderate request at declining prices.

SUGARS—Sales, 200 hhds. New-Orleans at 9¼c.@11¾ per lb.

TALLOW—Sales, 125,000 lbs. at 10¾c.@10¾c. ₱ lb.

WHISKY—Sales. 500 bbls. at 38¾c.@39c. ₱ gallon.

FREIGHTS—For Liverpool, there were taken 500 bbls. Flour at 1s. 9d. ₱ bbl., and 250 pkgs. Provisions at 32s. 6d. ₱ ton; also, by steamer *Great Eastern*, 500 bbls. Pork, 500 tierces Beef, and 50 tons Clover Seed, on private terms. For London—1,100 bushels Corn at 11d. ₱ bushel, and 400 bbls. Resin at 4s. For Belfast—a bark with Wheat at 10d. ₱ bushel. For Havre—500 packages Lard at 7-16c. ₱ lb. For Cadiz—a brig, with heavy pipe staves, at $50, and light hhd. at $30. The latest charters, according to the *Shipping List*, have been: An Argentine bark, 205 tons, to Lisbon, 3,200 bbls. Flour, 97½c.; a Prussian bark, to same port, 600 bbls. Flour, 97½c., and 12,000 bushels Wheat on private terms; an Italian brig, 217 tons, to Gibralter and Malta, Tobacco, Alcohol, &c., at rates equal to Flour at 4s. 3d. ₱ bbl.; a ship, 1,115 tons, from Chincha Islands to Falmouth for orders, Guano, £3 15s.; a British brig, 109 tons, two voyages to Spanish Main and back, $700 ₱ month; a British schr., 88 tons, to Barbados, 87½c.; a schr., 225 tons, to St. Johns, P. R., and back, $1,600; one, 198 tons, to Greytown, Nicaragua, and back, $2,600; two British brigs from south side Cuba to New-York, Sugar 42½c. and Molasses $3; one, 90 tons, to south side Cuba and back, $1,680; one, 226 tons, from Cienfuegos to New-York, Sugar 42½c. and Molasses $3, on deck; a schr., 153 tons, to St. Jago, $900; one, 180 tons, to Remedios and back, Sugar 40c.; two barks, each 348 tons, to Havana, $2,250 and $2,350; a British bark, 387 tons, (now at Fall River,) same voyage, $3,250; a brig, 299 tons, to north side Cuba and back, Sugar 40c., Melado 36c., and Molasses $3 50, under deck; a ship, 758 tons, to Melbourne, a Hamburgh bark, 400 tons, an Australian bark, 617 tons, and a British brig, 325 tons, to Antwerp, the latter with Petroleum, a bark, 448 tons, to Malaga, Staves, and back from Messina or Palermo to New-York or Philadelphia, and a brig to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, on private terms.

WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKET.

Prices Current for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 24. Reported exclusively for the New-York Times, by M. W. Starin & Co., Produce Commission Merchants, No. 209 Duane-street. Our quotations are for sound merchantable property, in good clean packages.

BUTTER.

The Produce Market for the past week has exhibited the usual quietude of this season, the volume of trade being always greatly lessened toward the close of the year's transactions. Butter—particularly fine qualities—is held with great firmness, and sales to a considerable extent have been made for home and California trade, at our extreme quotations. The export demand has been confined to a few direct orders, but the cessation of purchases on the part of European operators has not caused any weakness in the market, it being the general impression that sufficient quantities have already been taken to prevent any accumulation and consequent depression. Roll Butter is not plenty, and commands a ready sale. Our quotations are unaltered.

Orange County pails	25@30
Half-tubs—fresh dairy	24@28
Firkins—choice Fall made	24½@26
Firkins—choice State dairies	24@26
Welsh tubs—choice State dairies	23@24
Welsh tubs—fair State dairies	21@22
Firkins—choice Northern Pennsylvania dairies	22@23
Firkins—good Western Reserve and Penn. fair	17@21
Choice Butter—"original packages"	16@12
Roll Butter, State	21@22
Roll Butter, Western	18@20

CHEESE.

The transactions of the week in cheese have been very limited. The great bulk of the stock now in this market is generally in strong hands, and no concessions are offered as an inducement to buyers. The stock of Western cheese is greatly reduced, and but little of low grades offering. Some fancy dairies are held at prices outside of our quotations, but sales cannot at present be effected to any extent at the views of holders. The market closes firmly at

State Dairies—extra	10¾@12½
State Dairies—fair to good	9½@10½
Western Reserve and Pennsylvania—extra	9½@11
Western Reserve and Penn.—fair to good	8½@9½
English Dairy	11½@13
Pine Apple	13½@16

POULTRY AND GAME.

Hard cold weather, which has prevailed for a few days, has enabled receivers to work off the surplus accumulations of Poultry that had arrived during the late warm weather. The market is well supplied with fine Poultry, and very fair prices are being obtained. A favorable holiday season may be safely anticipated by shippers, provided the present cold weather continues. Some fancy lots of poultry command prices outside of our quotations. Every description of Game arriving at this season, in really good order, commands ready sale and full prices. Damaged and unmarketable Game or Poultry we do not pretend to quote. Our quotations are:

DRESSED POULTRY.

Turkeys, by the package, ₱ lb	$ 16	@$	12
Fowls, by the package, ₱ lb	8	@	9
Chickens, by the package, ₱ lb	9	@	10
Ducks, by the package, ₱ lb	10	@	11
Geese, by the package, ₱ lb	8	@	10

GAME.

Venison, saddles, ₱ lb	$ 11	@$	12
Venison, carcass, ₱ lb	8	@	9
Partridges ₱ pair	75	@	87½
Prairie Chickens ₱ pair	75	@	1 00
Canvas Back Ducks ₱ pair	1 00	@	1 25
Woodcock ₱ pair	50	@	62
Teal Duck ₱ pair	25	@	31
Black Duck ₱ pair	31	@	38
Wild Pigeon ₱ doz	75	@	87½
Quail ₱ doz	1 75	@	2 00
Squabs ₱ doz	1 50	@	1 75
Plover ₱ doz	1 25	@	1 50
English Snipe, ₱ dozen	1 25	@	1 50
Wild Turkey, ₱ lb	10	@	12½

EGGS.

Fresh Eggs continue unusually scarce, and sell promptly on arrival, at full prices. The market is over-supplied with *limed* or *preserved* Eggs—large quantities of which having been improperly prepared, prove to be unfit for use, which fact injures the sale of a really good article. A costly lesson in preserving Eggs will probably be learned this season, by many Western shippers. We quote:

Actual count of sound Eggs:

State and Jersey, ₱ dozen	22	@	24
Western, ₱ dozen	21	@	22
State Preserved, ₱ dozen	16	@	17
Western Preserved, ₱ dozen	15	@	16

BEANS AND PEAS.

The market for Beans has recovered from its late depression, and an active demand prevails at slightly improved prices. We note sales of 1,500 bbls. at our quotations.

No charge for package.

Marrows, ₱ bushel of 62 lbs	$2 60	@$2	80
Kidneys, ₱ bushel of 62 lbs	2 60	@ 2	80
Mediums, ₱ bushel of 62 lbs	2 50	@ 2	65
Mixed lots, ₱ bushel of 62 lbs	2 13	@ 2	50
Peas, Canada, ₱ bushel	1 00	@ 1	05
Peas, Black Eyed State, ₱ bushel	1 05	@ 1	10

POTATOES.

Potatoes continue in good, fair demand, and prices are firm and unaltered.

Dykemans, ₱ bbl	$1 75	@$2	00
Mercers, ₱ bbl—good to choice	2 00	@ 3	00
Peach-blows, ₱ bbl—good to choice	1 50	@ 2	00
Buckeyes, ₱ bbl—good to choice	1 50	@ 1	62
Junes, ₱ bbl—good to choice	1 38	@ 1	50
Sweet Potatoes, ₱ bbl—good to choice	2 50	@ 3	25
Western Reds, ₱ bbl	1 50	@ 1	75
Neva Scotia, ₱ bushel	—	@	50

FRUIT.

There is no change to note in the Fruit market since our last. The usual holiday demand causes great activity, and prices are fully maintained. We quote:

APPLES.

Baldwins, ₱ bbl	$1 50	@ $2	00
Greenings, ₱ bbl	1 50	@ 2	00
Spitzenbergs, ₱ bbl	1 75	@ 2	25
Pound Sweets, ₱ bbl	1 50	@ 1	75
Newtown Pippins, ₱ bbl	1 75	@ 3	00
Common Apples, ₱ bbl	0 75	@ 1	25
Mixed Lots Western, ₱ bbl	1 62	@ 1	87
Lady Apples, ₱ bbl	3 60	@ 5	00

GRAPES, &c.

Isabel ₱ lb	$ 7	@$	9
Catawbas, ₱ lb., choice	11	@	14
Black Hamburg, ₱ lb	15	@	16
Cranberries, (Eastern,) ₱ bbl	11 00	@ 13	00
Cranberries, (Western,) ₱ bbl	7 00	@ 9	00
Quinces, (Apple,) ₱ bbl	2 50	@ 3	50
Quinces, (Pear,) ₱ bbl	2 00	@ 2	75

DRIED FRUIT.

Dried Apples and Peaches are arriving more freely, but the demand is more than equal to the supply, and prices are firmly maintained. Other varieties continue very scarce, and command full prices. We quote:

Apples, New, Ohio and State, ₱ lb	5½	@	6¼
Apples, Old, Ohio and State, ₱ lb	4	@	4½
Plums, new, ₱ lb	12	@	14
Cherries, new, pitted, ₱ lb	19	@	20
Raspberries, new, black, ₱ lb	16	@	18
Blackberries, new, ₱ lb	10	@	12
Peaches, State, new, ₱ lb	16	@	18
Peaches, unpeeled	7	@	10

SUNDRIES.

Hickory Nuts, ₱ bushel	$1 75	@$2	50
Chesnuts, ₱ bushel	5 00	@ 5	50
Onions, White, ₱ bbl	2 50	@ 2	75
Onions, Yellow, ₱ bbl	2 50	@ 2	75
Onions, Red, ₱ bbl	2 50	@ 2	62
Onions, Bunch, ₱ 100	3 75	@ 4	00
Pumpkins, ₱ hundred	3 50	@ 9	50
Squashes, ₱ bbl	1 50	@ 1	75
Turnips, Rutabaga, ₱ bbl	1 00	@	
Barley Malt, prime, ₱ bushel	1 50	@ 1	60
Barley Malt, fair to good, ₱ bushel	1 40	@ 1	50
Beeswax, pure Yellow, ₱ lb	39	@	40
Broom Corn, in bales, ₱ lb	7	@	8
Ginseng, Western, ₱ lb	58	@	63
Cider, new, ₱ gallon	7	@	10
Honey, White Clover, glass caps, ₱ lb	18	@	20
Honey, White Clover, wood boxes, ₱ lb	12	@	14
Honey, Buckwheat, wood and glass, ₱ lb	10	@	16
Vinegar, Cider, ₱ gallon	10	@	12½
Dressed Hogs, heavy corn-fed, ₱ lb	5¾	@	6
Dressed Hogs, light corn-fed, ₱ lb	6	@	6¼
Feathers, live Geese, ₱ lb	42	@	45
Maple Sugar, New Crop, ₱ lb	9	@	10

Movements of European Steamers.

FROM EUROPE.

Glasgow	Dec. 10	Liverpool	New-York.
Bohemian	Dec. 11	Liverpool	Portland.
Europa	Dec. 13	Liverpool	Boston.
United Kingdom	Dec. 16	Glasgow	New-York.
Etna	Dec. 17	Liverpool	New-York.
Hammonia	Dec. 17	Southampton	New-York.
Persia	Dec. 20	Liverpool	New-York.
New-York	Dec. 24	Southampton	New-York.
City of Baltimore	Dec. 24	Liverpool	New-York.
Africa	Dec. 27	Liverpool	Boston.
Teutonia	Dec. 31	Southampton	New-York.
Borussia	Jan. 14	Southampton	New-York.
Hansa	Jan. 21	Southampton	New-York.
Saxonia	Jan. 28	Southampton	New-York.
Bavaria	Feb. 11	Southampton	New-York.

FROM AMERICA.

Edinburgh	Dec. 27	New-York	Liverpool.
Caledonia	Dec. 27	New-York	Glasgow.
Bavaria	Dec. 27	New-York	Southampton
Scotia	Dec. 30	New-York	Liverpool.
Great Eastern	Jan. 3	New-York	Liverpool.
Glasgow	Jan. 3	New-York	Liverpool.
Europa	Jan. 7	Boston	Liverpool.
United Kingdom	Jan. 10	New-York	Glasgow.
Persia	Jan. 14	New-York	Liverpool.

Departure of Domestic Mails.

North Mails close at 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at 5 A. M. and 4:30 and 10½ P. M.
Western Mails (*via* Erie Railroad) 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails at 5 A. M., 1:45 P. M., 4 P. M. and 6:30 P. M.
Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 5½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.
On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

AS HOUSEKEEPER.—SITUATION WANTED as housekeeper, or to do the work of a small family, by an American widow, who is competent, neat and tidy. Can be seen for four days at No. 808 Broadway, her present employer.

A DRESSMAKER WISHES TO GO OUT by the day or week; can operate on a Wheeler & Wilson's sewing-machine; reference given. Call at or address No. 1,105 Broadway, between 24th and 25th sts.

MRS. M. C. GREEN, RESPECTFULLY invites the attention of the public to her Agency for Employment, No. 950 Broadway, east side, opposite the St. Germain Hotel, near 22d-st. The best of situations for town and country for reliable help at MRS. GREEN'S.

MALES.

WANTED.—EMPLOYMENT OF SOME KIND BY a young man, (a painter by trade;) can write a good business hand, keep accounts, &c.; the best of City reference given. Address, for three days, PAINTER, Box No. 123 *Times* Office.

TO WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS.—Wanted, a situation by a young man who has served his apprenticeship in the retail trade. Address T. R., Box No 170 *Times* Office.

HELP WANTED.

SALESMEN.—WANTED, TWO FIRST-CLASS salesmen, who have a thorough acquaintance with the cash and short-time dry goods jobbing trade; none but experienced salesmen need apply. Call before 10 A. M., or after 4 P. M. J. D. LEWIS & CO, 101 Chambers-st.

TO PIANO MAKERS.—WANTED, A FLY FINisher. A good workman can have steady work, and plenty of it. Apply at No. 245 West 28th-st., between 9th and 10th avs.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, A GOOD HAT Block manufacturer; a responsible position, good salary and constant employment guaranteed. Address No. 67 Court-st., Newark, N. J.

A SEAMSTRESS AND LADY'S MAID.—Wanted, as seamstress and lady's maid, a Protestant, one who understands her business perfectly, and can bring unexceptionable recommendations. Apply at No. 19 East 17th-st., between the hours of 9 and 12 o'clock.

$60 A MONTH!—WE WANT AGENTS, AT $60 a month, expenses paid, to sell our Everlasting Pencils, Oriental Burners, and 13 other articles. 15 circulars free. Address SHAW & CLARK, Biddeford, Me.

$75 A MONTH!—I WANT TO HIRE AGENTS in every county, at $75 a month, expenses paid, to sell my new cheap Family Sewing-Machines. Address S. MADISON, Alfred, Maine.

TO FAMILIES AND GROCERS.

THE BEST SOAP IN USE.

E. MORGAN'S SONS'

PEARL

MOTTLED SOAP.

This Soap is, without doubt, the best and cheapest in use. It is manufactured from the best materials; and being entirely free from any of those injurious substances so often found in soap, we do not hesitate to pronounce it unequaled for washing flannels and fine goods, or for family use of any kind. We have several other qualities of soaps which give the most unqualified satisfaction wherever used. Our house has been established upward of fifty years, and has a wide reputation for manufacturing only from the best materials.

GIVE THE PEARL MOTTLED SOAP A TRIAL.

ENOCH MORGAN'S SONS,
No. 211 Washington-st., and No. 440 West-st

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

65 MAIDEN-LANE, Cor. William-st.

NEW TOYS AND HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

We offer the largest assortment

OF NEW AND DESIRABLE GOODS,

At the most reasonable prices.

We are sure of your patronage if you will give us a call.

STRASBURGER & NUHN,

Importers,

No. 65 Maiden-lane,
Corner William-st.

ARTISTIC PRESENTS.

HOLIDAY GIFT-SEEKERS

Will find the most recherché as well as popular collection of

"ART TRIFLES AND SUBSTANTIALITIES"

in the complete variety of

FRENCH AND SWISS
CARVED WOOD ORNAMENTS,

viz.: Cuckoo Clocks, Work-Boxes, Inkstandishes, Glove Boxes, Thermometers, Cigar-Boxes, Book Racks, Brackets, Ladies' Companions, &c., &c.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS,
PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS IN PASSEPARTOUTS,
FRAMED ENGRAVINGS,
PORTFOLIOS AND DRAWING ALBUMS,

And other beautiful articles, at

GOUPIL'S,

No. 772 Broadway, corner of 9th-st.

MANHATTAN PLATE CO.,

NO. 20 JOHN-ST.
FINE PLATED WARE.

Extra Plated on German Silver, Tea Sets, Salvers, Urns, Castors, Cake Baskets, Entré

FINANCIAL.

U. S.

"FIVE-TWENTY" YEAR
SIX PER CENT. BONDS,
COUPON AND REGISTERED, IN DENOMINATIONS
OF
$50, $100, $500, $1,000, and $5,000,
CONSTANTLY ON HAND AND FOR SALE AT PAR.
INTEREST TO COMMENCE FROM DATE OF PURCHASE.

The INTEREST on these BONDS is at the rate of 6 PER CENT. per annum, payable 1st of May and November, IN GOLD, which at the present rate of premium on Gold is equivalent to EIGHT PER CENT. PER ANNUM.

They are the CHEAPEST GOVERNMENT SECURITY NOW IN THE MARKET, and pay the largest interest on their cost.

They are destined to become the BEST KNOWN, MOST POPULAR and MOST AVAILABLE of all the bonds of the Government.

They are the bonds upon which the government now relies, *through the confidence and patriotism of the people*, for continued financial support.

We keep them for sale to facilitate investment in them and make them more accessible to the public, and every dollar invested in them through us contributes to the direct and immediate support of the government.

FISK & HATCH,
BANKERS, and DEALERS in all issues of Government and other desirable securities,
NO. 38 WALL-ST.

Deposits received, Collections made, Loans negotiated, Government Vouchers bought, sold, collected, &c.

NOTICE TO BONDHOLDERS.

OFFICE CLEVELAND AND TOLEDO RAILROAD CO., CLEVELAND, Ohio, Sept. 30, 1862.

THIS Company is now prepared to pay at the office of Messrs. Vermilyea & Co., No. 44 Wall-st., New-York, the following Bonds, with accrued interest, viz.:
Junction Railroad, 2d Mortgage Bonds, due Nov. 1, 1862.
Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland 1st Mortgage Bonds, due Aug. 1, 1863.
Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland 2d Mortgage Bonds, due Aug. 1, 1863.
Cleveland and Toledo Income Bonds, due Sept. 1, 1863.
The privilege of exchanging the different classes of outstanding Bonds of this Company for the Sinking Fund Bonds, will cease from and after this date. The coupons of the different classes of Bonds will be paid as heretofore at the Corn Exchange Bank, deducting 3 per cent. Government tax.
JOHN GREGORY, President.

JEFFERSONVILLE RAILROAD FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS.

OFFICE OF THE JEFFERSONVILLE RAILROAD CO., JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind., Dec. 1, 1862.

Notice is hereby given that this Company will redeem, on the 2d day of January next, at the United States Trust Company, New-York City, at the lowest offer below par, a part of its First Mortgage Bonds, agreeable to the provisions of a contract made between this Company and the holders of said Mortgage Bonds, bearing date April 14, 1859. Offers for the sale of said Bonds may be addressed, under seal, to the United States Trust Company aforesaid, and indorsed, "Offer of the First Mortgage Bond or Bonds of the Jeffersonville Railroad Company to the Sinking Fund," which offers or bids will be received until noon of the second day of January aforesaid.
J. H. McCAMPBELL,
Secretary and Treasurer.

U. S.

FIVE-TWENTY LOAN.
FOR SALE,
These Bonds, bear 6 per cent. interest, payable semi-annually in gold, commencing from date of subscription. We are prepared to deliver them without delay in denominations of 50s, 100s, 500s and 1,000s, (Coupon or registered,) at par, for current funds.
Purchases of this loan made through us contribute directly to the aid of the Government.
Orders, by mail or otherwise, will receive immediate attention. LIVERMORE, CLEWS & CO.,
No. 34 Wall-st., New-York.
Bankers and Dealers in Securities.

EDWARD KING,
(Late of the firm of JAMES G. KING'S SONS,)
Offers his services at the Board of Brokers for the purchase or sale of
STOCKS, BONDS AND GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
No. 23 Wall-st.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

NOTICE.—THE UNDERSIGNED, RECEIVER IN the action of Morris Ketchum vs. The Solens and Hocking Valley Railroad Company and Others, pending in the Court of Common Pleas, in and for the County of Perry and State of Ohio, hereby gives notice to the holders of the past due coupons on the bonds issued by said Company, and secured by a mortgage to said Morris Ketchum, that at the October Term, A. D. 1862, of said Court, an order was entered in the above-named action, requiring the holders of said past due coupons on said bonds to present the same to said Receiver, with evidence of their being held *bona fide*, on or before the 1st day of February next, and that on such presentation said Receiver shall hear and determine all questions as to the validity of the coupons so presented as claims against the Trust Fund in said action, and that he shall report his decision thereon, and the evidence on which the same is founded, to the next Term of said Court; and further, that all coupons then past due which shall not be presented to said Receiver within the time aforesaid, shall be barred, and precluded from participating in the Trust Fund in said case.
And the undersigned further gives notice that he will attend at his office, in the City of Portsmouth, in the State of Ohio, from the date hereof until, and including said 1st day of February, for the purpose of hearing and determining all questions touching the validity of all coupons of the class aforesaid that may be presented to him under said order.
Dated this 8th day of December, 1862.
J. W. WEBB, Receiver.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, TREASURER'S OFFICE, SPRINGFIELD, Dec. 5, 1862.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Treasurer of the State of Illinois will, on and after the first Monday of January, 1863, until the 4th day of February, 1863, be ready at the American Exchange Bank, New-York, to pay the interest maturing on the first Monday of January, 1863, on the public debt of the State of Illinois.
The interest then due and not called for prior to the 4th day of February, 1863, will thereafter be paid only at the office of the Treasurer of the State of Illinois, in the City of Springfield, Illinois.
WILLIAM BUTLER, Treasurer.
Holders of Illinois and Michigan Canal Bonds, where coupons are exhausted, are required to present the Bonds.
WILLIAM BUTLER, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 51 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1862.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY WILL close on the 31st inst., preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year, prior to 1st January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon, and a statement of all claims for return of premiums, to prevent delay or discrepancies in the account.
W. TOWNSEY JONES, Secretary.

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF JOHN ADAMS SMITH, late of the town of Batavia, in the County of Genesee: In pursuance of an order made by the Surrogate of the County of Genesee, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of JOHN ADAMS SMITH, late of the town of Batavia, in said county, deceased, that they are required to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to SETH WAKEMAN, Administrator, at his office, in the town of Batavia, in the County of Genesee, on or before the 10th day of April next.—Dated Sept. 25, 1862.
O2law6mTh SETH WAKEMAN, Administrator.

OFFICE OF THE GALENA AND CHICAGO UNION RAILROAD CO., CHICAGO, Dec. 19, 1862.

NOTICE TO BONDHOLDERS.—AT THE meeting of the Board of Directors of this Company, held on the 17th inst., it was
Resolved, That the time for extending the First Mortgage Bonds of this Company be and the same is hereby limited to the first day of April, 1863.
W. M. LARRABEE, Secretary.

NOTICE.—HAMILTON AND ST. JOSEPH RAILROAD.—All past due Coupons, including those due July 1, 1862, from Bonds of the State of Missouri, issued to the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company, will be paid on presentation of same at Bank of Commerce, in New-York.
H. F. VAIL, Cashier.
DEC. 19, 1862.

CHARLES A. MEIGS & SON, BROKERS AND BANKERS, No. 50 Exchange-place, NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1862.

ROCHESTER CITY BONDS FOR SALE.—$12,000 Six per cent. Bonds of the City of Rochester, N. Y., issued for municipal purposes, twenty years to run. Interest payable in New-York March and September.
CHAS. A. MEIGS & SON.

FOX AND WISCONSIN IMPROVEMENT COMPANY.—A meeting of the Board and Stockholders of this Company will be held at their office, in Trinity Buildings, No. 111 Broadway, on TUESDAY, the 30th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.
JOHN F. SEYMOUR, President.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1862.

THE COUPONS DUE 1ST JANUARY, 1863, on $150,000 first mortgage ten per cent. bonds of Sacramento, Placer and Nevada Railroad Company, of California, will be paid on and after that date, deducting Government tax, by
G. S. M. DAVIS,
Dec. 24, 1862. No. 47 Exchange-place.

$50,000 TO LOAN IN ONE SUM, OR will be divided in sums of not less than $20,000, on improved real estate in the City of New-York, at 6 per cent. interest.
WM. HENRY ARNOUX, No. 150 Nassau-st.

E. A. VANDERHOOF,
No. 54 Wall-st., opposite Merchants' Exchange.
STOCKS bought and sold exclusively on commission at one-eighth per cent.
MONEY loaned on Stocks and Bonds.

BROOKLYN CENTRAL AND JAMAICA Railroad Company Bonds, due Nov. 15, 1863, will be redeemed at 102 per cent., and accrued interest, on presentation at the office of A. G. JEROME & CO., No. 20 Exchange-place.

STOCKS, BONDS, GOLD AND GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,
Bought and sold at Board of Brokers,
By A. G. HEMINWAY & CO.
No. 53 Exchange-place.

COUPONS, COUPONS.—CALIFORNIA STATE and San Francisco City Coupons bought and collected at best rates by WILLIAM T. COLEMAN & CO., Nos. 261 Pearl and 70 Wall-st.

DUBUQUE AND SIOUX CITY STOCK—Milwaukee and Horicon Bonds; Green Bay, Milwaukee and Chicago Stock and Bonds bought.
GEO. K. SISTARE, No. 27 William-st., Room No. 6.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF THE Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against RICHARD S. KISSAM, late of the City of New-York, Physician, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at the office of PETER A. H. JACKSON, No. 192 Broadway, in the City of New-York, on or before the 1st day of February next. Dated New-York, July 25, 1862.
JULIA M. KISSAM, Administratrix.
jy24-lawôm Th

POST-OFFICE BOX FOR SALE, AT A moderate price. Apply to GEORGE PARK, Room No. 12, No. 25 William-st., New-York.

FINANCIAL.

UNITED STATES TREASURY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

NOTICE.—PARTIES HOLDING FIFTY (50) OR more Coupons due Jan. 1st prox., on United States Bonds, are requested to hand them in for examination, with schedules of the numbers and loans, at least three days prior to that date. Blank schedules will be furnished on application at the Interest desk of this office. Care should be taken not to include in these schedules Coupons of three-years seven and three-tenth per cent. Bonds, or five-twenty six per cent. Bonds, as in such cases the schedules will be thrown out for correction.
It will facilitate very much if small holders will present with the Coupons, at maturity, a slip of paper with the numbers of the Coupons and the years of issue of the Loans.
Checks for schedules will be ready for delivery on the 31st inst., after 3 o'clock P. M.
JOHN J. CISCO,
Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY.—The Coupons due 1st of January, 1863, on $400,000 First Mortgage Bonds of this Company will be paid *on presentation* IN GOLD COIN less 3 per cent. excise tax, at the office of SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD.

DIVIDENDS

OFFICE OF THE GALENA AND CHICAGO UNION RAILROAD COMPANY—CHICAGO, Dec. 17, 1862.—NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.—At a stated meeting of the Board of Directors of this Company, held this day, the following resolution was adopted:
Resolved, That a Dividend of Three Per Cent. upon the Capital Stock of this Company be, and the same is hereby declared, payable at the office of the Company in Chicago, on the 15th day of January next, to holders of said stock at the close of business on the 31st day of December next, in Exchange on New-York at par. The Three Per Cent. tax to the United States will be paid by the Company.
W. N. LARRABEE, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY, TONTINE BUILDINGS, No. 88 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1862.

TWENTY-THIRD DIVIDEND.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a dividend of Three (3) per Cent. out of the earnings of the Road, for the three months ending the 31st inst., and One (1) per Cent. additional out of the earnings of steamers, sailing vessels, &c., payable to the stockholders, or their legal representatives, on and after the 5th of January next. The transfer books will be closed from the evening of the 26th December until the morning of the 7th January.
HENRY SMITH, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE & HUDSON CANAL COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 1, 1862.

THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THIS Company have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Three and a Half per Cent. out of the profits of the Company, payable on and after FRIDAY, the 19th of December instant.
The transfer books are now closed, and will remain closed until the morning of the 16th inst.
By order of the Board,
ISAAC N. SEYMOUR, Treasurer.

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the New-Jersey Zinc Company, held at Jersey City, this 12th day of December, 1862, a dividend of Four per cent. was declared on the Preferred Stock, and Four per cent. on the Common Stock, payable on the second day of January next, at the transfer office of the Company, No. 106 Liberty-st., New-York. The transfer books will be closed from the 20th inst. to the 2d proximo.
A. H. FARLIN, Treasurer and Secretary.

157TH DIVIDEND—BANK OF NEW-YORK.—The Board of Directors of the Bank of New-York have THIS DAY declared a Dividend of THREE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT. (3½) upon the capital stock, (free from Government tax,) payable on and after the 2d day of January, 1863. The Transfer Books will be closed until the 2d of January.
WM. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

BROADWAY BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1862.
TWENTY-SIXTH DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-annual Dividend of Five (5) Per Cent., free from Government tax, will be paid to the stockholders of this Bank, on the 2d day of January ensuing.
The transfer books will be closed from the 24th inst., until the day of payment. By order of the Board,
J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH FIRE INSURANCE CO., No 6 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1862.

DIVIDEND.—A DIVIDEND OF SEVEN PER Cent., (free from Government tax,) has this day been declared, payable on and after the 22d inst.
Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th to the 22d inst., inclusive.
GEO. T. HAWS, Sec'y.

OFFICE OF CHICAGO AND ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD CO., NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

A DIVIDEND OF THREE PER CENT., and the United States Government tax on the same, has been declared payable to the stockholders of this Company on the 12th January, 1863. The transfer books will be closed on the 31st inst., and opened on the 10th of January next. FRANCIS H. TOWS, Secretary.

57TH DIVIDEND.—THE BROOKLYN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
have declared their usual semi-annual Dividend of
TEN (10) PER CENT.
out of the profits for the last six months, (free from Government tax,) payable on and after Jan. 2, 1863.
DEC. 10, 1862. WM. F. LEGGETT, Secretary.

PEOPLE'S BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Three and One-half (3½) Per Cent. on the Capital Stock, free from Government tax, payable on and after the 5th day of January next. By order,
G. W. LEAKE, Cashier.

DIVIDEND.—THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECtors of the BANK OF AMERICA have this day declared a dividend of four (4) per cent. for the current six months, free from Government tax, payable to the Stockholders on and after FRIDAY, Jan. 2, 1863.
The transfer books will remain closed from this date until Tuesday, January 6, 1863.
WM. L. JENKINS, Cashier.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1862.

THE PARK BANK.—NEW-YORK, DEC. 23, 1862.—The Directors of this Bank have THIS DAY declared the usual semi-annual Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent., free from Government tax, payable on and after the 2d day of January next. The transfer books will be closed from the 25th inst. to 2d of January, inclusive.
CHARLES A. MACY, Cashier, per DEYER.

MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1862.

DIVIDEND—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of three per cent. on the Capital Stock (free of Government tax) payable on and after the 2d day of January next, until which date the Transfer Books will be closed.
A. MASTERTON, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE BANK IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1862.

DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF Three per Cent. on the capital of this Bank has been declared—free from Government tax—payable on and after 2d day of January next. By order,
E. J. OAKLEY, Cashier.

BANK OF NORTH AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1862.

DIVIDEND NO. 93.—THE BOARD OF DIRECtors have this day declared a dividend of Three and a Half (3½) per Cent., (free of Government tax,) payable Jan. 5. The transfer books will be closed from Dec. 26 to Jan. 5.
JOHN P. YELVERTON, Cashier.

CONTINENTAL BANK.—NEW-YORK, DEC. 24, 1862. The Board of Directors have declared a Dividend of Three per Cent., free of Government tax, and payable on and after Monday, the 5th January, 1863.
The Transfer Books will be closed from date to Jan. 5, inclusive. E. W. TALMAN, Assistant Cashier.

BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK—DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of Three and a-half (3½) per Cent., free from Government Tax, has been declared on the Capital Stock of this Bank, payable on and after January 5. H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

HANOVER BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1862.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a dividend of three per cent. on the Capital Stock, (free from Government tax,) payable on and after the 2d day of January next.
By order. THOS. L. TAYLOR, Cashier.

SAVINGS BANKS

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK.

Corner 3d-av. and 25th-st.
Chartered 1854.
Six per cent. interest allowed.
DEPOSITS MADE ON OR BEFORE JAN. 1, WILL DRAW INTEREST FROM THAT DATE.
Bank open daily from 10 to 3; also on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday Evenings from 6 to 8, o'clock.
SPENCER K. GREEN, President.
AUGUSTUS F. LEE, Secretary.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK,

CHATHAM-SQUARE, NEW-YORK.
Open Daily from 10 to 2 and from 5 to 7 P. M.
Deposits from 25 cents to $5,000 received. SIX PER CENT. INTEREST PAID on sums of $500 and under—6 per cent. on larger deposits.
M. D. VAN PELT, Pres't.
JOS. P. COOPER, Sec'y. CHAS. D. BAILEY, Treas.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST.—CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK, corner of Bowery and Canal-st., open every day from 9 to 3, and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 5 to 7.
Interest commences Jan. 1, 1863.
Bank Books in English, German and French.
GEORGE FOLSOM, President.
SEYMOUR A. BUNCE, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION—NO. 96 Warren-st.—Interest allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. on sums from $1 to $500, and 5 per cent. on sums over that amount. Open Daily from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M. Also on Monday, Thursday and Saturday evening from 4 to 7 P. M. N. B.—Money to loan on Bond and Mortgage.
WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK, NO. 429 CANAL, COR. VARICK-ST.—Open daily, from 10 A. M. to 2, and from 5 to 7 P. M. Six per cent. interest allowed on sums of $500 and under, and five per cent. on larger sums. E. V. HAUGHWOUT, President.
G. S. CHAPIN, Secretary.

STATIONERY.

1863. DIARIES. 1863.

All sizes and styles of Diaries and Journals, Expense Books, Photograph Albums, Writing Desks, Ink Trays, Portfolios, Gold Pens, Games, Currency Wallets, and every style of fine writing paper and stationery at low prices, by FRANCIS & LOUTREL, No. 45 Maiden-lane.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST INK.
AMERICAN UNION INK, jet black, flows freely, and does not corrode. Sold at No. 1 Mulberry-st., and at the stationers generally. JESSE G. KEYS.

SEWING MACHINES.

WHEELER & WILSON, SINGER, FINKLE & LYON, HOWE, and other first-class sewing-machines, new, for sale—part cash and the balance in monthly installments. P. H. DIAMOND, 539 Broadway

AMUSEMENTS.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

GRAND CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL,
THIS EVENING, Dec. 25.
EDWIN BOOTH
Will make his SECOND APPEARANCE
In Brooklyn in TWO CHARACTERS,
Appearing both in TRAGEDY and COMEDY.
As SIR EDWARD MORTIMER
In Colman's great play of THE IRON CHEST,
And as PETRUCHIO,
In Shakespeare's charming comedy,
KATHERINE AND PETRUCHIO.
Sustained by that brilliant favorite,
MRS. JULIA BENNETT BARROW
As WILFORD
and
KATHERINE.
And by an admirable company, comprising the names of H. F. Daly, O. Marlowe, J. J. Prior, C. B. Wilkins, T. E. Owens, Russell, Ferris, Francis, Miss Nina Foster, Mrs. Marlowe, Mrs. Hinde, and A. H. Davenport, Stage Manager.
On SATURDAY, 27th,
EDWIN BOOTH
Will make his THIRD AND LAST APPEARANCE
In the characters of SHYLOCK,
In THE MERCHANT OF VENICE,
And DON CÆSAR DE BAZAN.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

MR. MASON JONES
will deliver a
SACRED ORATION,
on
SUNDAY EVENING NEXT, DEC. 28.
Subject:
ST. PAUL.
ADMISSION FREE.
Doors open at 6½; commence at 7½.
Communications for Mr. MASON JONES to be addressed to him at the Fifth-av. Hotel.

GERMAN OPERA HOUSE.

No. 485 Broadway, corner of Broome-st.
Director.....Carl Anschutz
THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 25,
By special and unanimous desire,
THE POACHER, (DER WILDSCHUTZ,)
THE POACHER, (DER WILDSCHUTZ,)
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 26,
For this night only, MOZART, chef d'œuvre of
THE MAGIC FLUTE, (DIE ZAUBERFLOETE,)
THE MAGIC FLUTE, (DIE ZAUBERFLOETE,)
SATURDAY EVENING, Dec. 27,
LE NOZZE DI FIGARO, (FIGARO'S WEDDING.)
LE NOZZE DI FIGARO, (FIGARO'S WEDDING.)

THEATRE FRANCAIS.

NIBLO'S CONCERT SALOON,
SATURDAY, Dec. 27, 1862,
LA MERE DE FAMILLE,
UN TENOR LEGER,
UN HAMME DU SUD,
Doors open at 7¾; curtain rises at 8 o'clock précise.
Office for subscriptions and reserved seats,
H. DARDONVILLE, No. 623 Broadway.

COOPER INSTITUTE.

FATHER KEMP'S OLD FOLKS,
WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY EVENINGS, at 8 o'clock, Dec. 24 and 25,
Twenty-five Ladies and Gentlemen in
COSTUME OF ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO,
WITH
GRAND ORCHESTRA, assisted by
EMMA J. NICHOLS.
Grand Matinée Christmas Afternoon, at 3 o'clock.
Tickets, 25 cents; Children, 15 cents. Doors open at 7 o'clock in the evening.

PARLOR GYMNASTICS FOR LADIES.

Mrs. Z. R. PLUMB (graduate of Dr. Dio Lewis' Physical Institute of Boston) will instruct a class in the above at J. WOOD'S Gymnasium, No. 6 East 28th-st., near 5th-av. Circulars sent free on application.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH-AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS.

BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR, AND BETWEEN BOSTON AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT HALIFAX AND CORK HARBOR.
AFRICA, ANDERSON, leaves Boston Wednesday, Dec. 10.
CHINA, COOK, leaves New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 17.
ARABIA, STONE, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Dec. 24.
SCOTIA, JUDKINS, leaves New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 31.
EUROPA, MOODIE, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Jan. 7.
PERSIA, LOTT, leaves New-York, Wednesday, Jan. 14.
FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$165
Second Cabin Passage	100

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$140
Second Cabin Passage	80

Berths not secured until paid for.
An experienced surgeon on board.
The owners of these ships will not be accountable for specie or valuables unless bills of lading, having the value expressed, are signed therefor.
For freight of passage, apply to
E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling Green.

STEAM TO LONDONDERRY, GLASGOW AND LIVERPOOL.

The Montreal Steamship Company's first-class full-powered Clyde-built steamer
NORTH AMERICA,
Capt. BURGESS, carrying the Canadian and United States mails, will sail from Portland next SATURDAY, Dec. 27.
Rates of passage from New-York—First-class, according to accommodations. $101 and $87: Steerage, found with good provisions, $30. Certificates issued for bringing out passengers from all the principal towns in Great Britain and Ireland as very low rates. For passage apply at No. 23 Broadway, New-York.
SABEL & SEARLE, General Agents.

STEAM FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

The Steamship
GREAT EASTERN, WALTER PATON Commander,
having completed her repairs, which have been inspected and approved by the agent of the English "Lloyds," the Surveyor of Steamers for the Board of Underwriters of New-York, and other scientific gentlemen, who have given their certificate to that effect, will be dispatched
FROM NEW-YORK FOR LIVERPOOL
ON
SATURDAY, Jan. 3,
First Cabin, from.....$110 to $185
each berth, according to the size, situation and accommodation of the state-rooms; all having the same privileges in the Saloons and in regard to meals and attendance.
Suites of apartments for families may be engaged by special agreement.
Servants accompanying passengers, and children under twelve years of age, half fare. Infants free.
Second Cabin state-room berths, meals furnished at separate table.....$80
Third Cabin, intermediate state-room passengers, found with beds, bedding, table utensils and good substantial food.....$55
Steerage, with superior accommodations.....$35
Each passenger allowed twenty cubic feet of luggage. An experienced Surgeon on board.
For Freight and Passage, apply to
CHAS. A. WHITNEY,
At the office, No. 26 Broadway, New-York.
HOWLAND & ASPINWALL, Agents.

STEAM WEEKLY TO LIVERPOOL, touching at QUEENSTOWN, (CORK HARBOR). The Liverpool, New-York, and Philadelphia Steamship Company intend dispatching their full-powered Clyde-built Iron Steamships as follows:

EDINBURGH	Saturday	Dec. 27
GLASGOW	Saturday	Jan. 3
ETNA	Saturday	Jan. 10

and every succeeding Saturday, at Noon, from Pier No. 44, North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE:			
First Cabin	$100	Steerage	$40
First cabin to London	105	Steerage to London	43
First cabin to Paris	115	Steerage to Paris	48
First cabin to Hamburg	110	Steerage to Hamburg	45

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.
Fares from Liverpool or Queenstown: First Cabin, $100, $110, $125. Steerage from Liverpool, $50. From Queenstown, $40. Those who wish to send for their friends can buy tickets here at these rates.
These Steamers have superior accommodations for passengers; are strongly built in water-tight iron sections, and carry Patent Fire Annihilators. Experienced Surgeons are attached to each Steamer.
For further information apply in Liverpool to WILLIAM INMAN, Agent, No. 22 Water-st.; in Glasgow to ALEX. MALCOLM, No. 5 St. Enoch-square; in Queenstown to C. & W. D. SEYMOUR & CO.; in London to EIVES & MACEY, No. 61 King William-st.; in Paris to JULES DECOUE, No. 48 Rue Notre Dame des Victoires, Place de la Bourse; in Philadelphia to JOHN G. DALE, No. 111 Walnut-st., or at the Company's Offices.
JOHN G. DALE, Agent,
No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

FOR NICARAGUA, C. A.—THE CENTRAL American Transit Company will dispatch a regular monthly line of freight vessels to San Juan del Norte (Greytown). The next vessel to follow the G. S. ADAMS, will be the first class schooner SARAH N. SMITH, Capt. FISKE, 260 tons burthen, to sail on or about the 5th January next.
For freight apply to
JOHN E. BODY,
No. 53 Exchange place.

FOR HAVANA VIA NASSAU, N. P.—THE British and North American Royal Mail Steamship BRITISH QUEEN, Capt. LE HUISSIER, will sail for the above ports, from the Company's Wharf, at Jersey City, on TUESDAY, Dec. 9, and TUESDAY, Jan. 6, 1863.
Passage money to Nassau.....$50 00
Passage money to Havana.....70 00
For Freight or Passage apply to
E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-Green.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS VIA HAVANA.—THE steamer RELIEF, Capt. Richardson, will leave Pier No. 4 North River, for the above port, on FRIDAY, Dec. 26, 1862, at 3 P. M. Has excellent accommodations for passengers. Rates of passage. $60 first cabin, $50 second cabin. For freight or passage, apply to
D. DE GOICOURIA & CO., No. 11 Broad-st.

STEAMBOATS.

FOR BRIDGEPORT—DAILY LINE.—THE steamer BRIDGEPORT leaves Pier No. 26, East River, daily, at 12 o'clock noon, arriving in Bridgeport in time to connect with the Housatonic, Naugatuck, New-Haven and Hartford Railroads; also, the shore line to Saybrook and New-London. Freight taken and received on the wharf all day, and way-bill to all stations on Housatonic Railroad, at contract prices.
GEORGE W. CORLIES, Agent.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD AND SPRINGFIELD.—Steamers leave Peck-slip at 3 P. M. Passengers go north from New-Haven at 11 o'clock P. M., or remain on board over night without charge.

AMUSEMENTS.

WALLACK'S.

Near Union-square. Entrances Broadway and 13th-st.
Open at 7½ o'clock, begin at 8, over before 11.
GRAND HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE
THIS EVENING, (Christmas night.)
THURSDAY
WILL BE REPEATED,
With NEW SCENERY by Mr. Isherwood,
NEW COSTUMES by Mr. Flannery,
AND
NEW AND APPROPRIATE MUSIC
By Mr. Stoepel.
THE POPULAR COMIC DRAMA,
THE INVISIBLE HUSBAND,
Which was received at its first representation with the most gratifying demonstrations of approval by a very crowded and fashionable audience.

Don Philip, the King Consort	Mr. Lester Wallack
Don Manuel de Pontvedra	Mr. Charles Fisher
Don Japhet, Grand Chamberlain	Mr. Mark Smith
Gil Perez, the Miller	Mr. George Holland
Captain of the Guard	Mr. Parkes
Page	Mr. Turner
Giralda, a peasant girl	Miss Mary Gannon

(As originally acted by her.)

Isabella, Queen of Spain	Miss Fanny Morant
Bridesmaids	Misses Green and Burnish

Villagers, Ladies of the Court, &c.
THE NEW SCENERY WILL COMPRISE:
ACT 1.
Village in Spain, with the distant mountain view.
ACT 2.
Interior of the Mill.
ACT 3.
Superb Apartment in the Queen's Palace at Madrid.
TO-MORROW (Friday)—Fifth night of THE BACHELOR OF ARTS.
SATURDAY and MONDAY—THE INVISIBLE HUSBAND.
TUESDAY—THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.
WEDNESDAY—THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
"Money," "Love and Money," and (by desire) "Bosom Friends" will be repeated.
In preparation, "Pauline," "Everybody's Friend," and other plays.

WALLACK'S.

Entrances in Broadway and 13th-st.
FRIDAY, Dec. 26,
SIXTH NIGHT
Of the very popular comedy,
A BACHELOR OF ARTS.

Harry Jasper (originally acted by him)	Mr. Lester Wallack
Mr. Thornton	Mr. Charles Fisher
Andrew Wylie	Mr. John Gilbert
Mathew	Mr. George Holland
Adolphus	Mr. Floyd
Frederick Adderly	Mr. Reynolds
William	Mr. Turner
Emma Thornton	Miss Mary Gannon
Mrs. Thornton	Miss Fanny Morant

SATURDAY, and MONDAY,
THE INVISIBLE HUSBAND.
TUESDAY—THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.
WEDNESDAY—THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
"Money," "Love and Money," and (by desire) "Bosom Friends" will be repeated.
In preparation "Pauline," "Everybody's Friend," and other Plays.

NIBLO'S SALOON.

GOODWIN AND WILDER'S
POLYMORAMA.
Will be on exhibition
FOR THE FIRST TIME,
CHRISTMAS EVE, Dec. 24,
and every Monday (except Monday 29,) Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings, and every Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, until further notice.
Scenes from the first
DREAD SIGNAL AT SUMTER,
down to the last great battle. Also,
THE GREAT NAVAL FIGHT
BETWEEN THE
MERRIMAC AND MONITOR,
where is seen the moving of ships, the thundering of cannon, and the din of battle fall upon the ear of the audience, and the fearful work of carnage and death is presented with distinctness mocking reality.
Doors open at 7 o'clock; commence at 7½ o'clock. Afternoons, open at 2 o'clock; commence at 2½ o'clock.
Admission, 25 cents. Reserved seats, 50 cents. Children accompanied by parents to reserved seats, 25 cents.
Grand performance every afternoon at 2½ o'clock Christmas Holiday week.
No performance Tuesday and Saturday nights.

BUCKLEY'S SERENADERS,

PALACE OF MUSIC BRASS BAND,
AND BURLESQUE OPERA TROUPE,
Under the sole management of
J. G. COLLINS,
EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK, AND
CHRISTMAS DAY AT 3 O'CLOCK.
Negro Minstrelsy of a superior order and Burlesque Opera.
LUCRETIA BORGIA,
In three acts.

Lucretia	Miss Julia Gould
Grumaro	G. Swaine Buckley
Ovidina	R. Bishop Buckley
Duke	J. A. Palmer

Tickets, 25 cents.
Doors open at 6½; Concert commences at 7¾ o'clock.

CHRISTMAS NIGHT—IRVING HALL.

THE NEW-YORK HARMONIC SOCIETY
will give their eleventh annual performance of
THE MESSIAH,
On CHRISTMAS NIGHT, (Thursday,) Dec. 25, 1862.
Doors open at 6; to commence at 7½ o'clock.
SOLOS SUSTAINED BY
Mrs. MOZART and Miss E. COLEMAN, Sopranos:
Mrs. JENNY KEMPTON, Alto;
Mr. G. SIMPSON, Tenor, Mr. J. R. THOMAS, Bass.
THE NEW-YORK HARMONIC SOCIETY,
in full force, will sustain the choruses. The powerful Orchestra, selected by Prof. F. Eisen, comprises some of the most eminent resident instrumentalists, and numbers some 30 pieces. In addition to the Orchestra, will be used a large-sized Harmonium, producing the tone of a 16-foot pedal pipe, manufactured by the celebrated firm of Carhart, Needham & Co., No. 97 East 23d-st., New-York. E. J. CONNOLLY, Organist; THEO. THOMAS, Leader; GEO. W. MORGAN, Conductor.
Tickets 50 cents, to be had at the music stores of Hall & Son, No. 543 Broadway; Firth, Pond & Co., No. 547 Broadway; Beer & Schirmer, No. 701 Broadway; Ilsley & Co., No. 430 Broome-st.; at the bookstore of H. B. Price, 884 Broadway; at the office, Irving Hall, corner of 15th-st. and Irving-place, and at the doors on night of performance

BANVARD'S GREAT PANORAMAS

OF THE MISSISSIPPI AND THE WAR
Will be exhibited during CHRISTMAS WEEK every afternoon at 3 o'clock, and evenings at 7½, in the New Hall of Art

THE REPULSE AT FREDERICKSBURG

Continuation of the Report of the Committee on the Conduct of the War.

Testimony of Gens. Woodbury and Halleck.

Who was Responsible for Delay in Forwarding the Pontoons.

GEN. WOODBURY'S TESTIMONY.

Brig.-Gen. D. P. WOODBURY was sworn. During his examination he said he had charge of the Engineer Brigade, consisting of the Fifteenth and Fiftieth Regiments of New-York Volunteers. He said on the morning of Nov. 13 he received the following telegram from Gen. HALLECK:

WARRENTON, Nov. 12—7:10 P. M.

Brig.-Gen. Woodbury, Engineer Brigade:

Call upon the Chief Quartermaster, Col. RUCKER, to transport all your pontoons and bridge materials to Aquia Creek. Col. BELGER has been ordered to charter and send me 100 barges to Alexandria.

(Signed) H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

And other orders were produced. After giving the details of his proceedings, he says, on the 15th he sent down three companies to build some temporary wharves. There were no pontoons to send with them, but some arrived before night of that day. On the 16th 8 companies started with 48 pontoons, which arrived at Belle Plain, on the afternoon of the 18th, the transport having been aground twenty-four hours. On the 19th, fearing that the land train would not arrive in time, I had thirty pontoon wagons shipped to Belle Plain. These were delayed by rough weather, and did not arrive till the 22d. These wagons were loaded on the night of the 22d, and a pontoon train was taken to headquarters, as already stated, on the morning of the 24th, by means of teams, which had come down with the army. The advance of the army arrived at Falmouth on the 17th. Gen. HALLECK's order to me of the 13th, made it apparent that the army was preparing to march to Fredericksburgh. As to the time when the movement would be made, I never received any information. Fearing, however, that the movement would be precipitate I went to Gen. HALLECK's office and urged him to delay the movement some five days in order that the necessary preparations might be made to insure its success. To this he replied that he would do nothing to delay for an instant the advance of the army upon Richmond. I rejoined that my suggestion was not intended to cause delay, but rather to prevent it. In making this suggestion I had reference not only to the pontoon train, but to the landings still to be created for the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments. The Quartermaster's Department was very scantily supplied with the means required for these landings—I may say almost totally destitute of means. With the very short notice given me, there was only one possible way of supplying the army with a pontoon train in time. Had the emergency been made known to me in any manner, I could have disregarded the forms of service, seized teams, teamsters and wagon masters for instant service whenever I could find them. Then, with good roads and good weather, they might possibly have been in time; but I had no warrant for such a course, which, after all, could only have been carried out by the authority of the General-in-Chief. I had a conversation with Gen. MEIGS on the 15th, in which much was said about the work to be done at Aquia Creek; not a word, so far as I can remember, about the land pontoon trains. The Department of which Gen. MEIGS is chief, cannot be justly blamed in this matter. My requisitions for horses were answered immediately.

GEN. HALLECK S TESTIMONY.

Maj.-Gen. H. W. Halleck sworn and examined by the Chairman:

Q.—By a resolution of the Senate we are instructed to inquire into the recent assault on Fredericksburgh, and the reasons for the delay in attacking the enemy's works. There seems to be a misunderstanding as to whose duty it was to furnish the pontoon boats. It appeared to be material that they should have been there at the same time the army got there. The army got there first, and the pontoons did not get there till some time afterwards, through mistake or delay. That is a matter of inquiry. State, in your own way, anything you think material which will throw light upon the subject of our inquiry, and especially as to the delay?

A.—I will state that all the troops in Washington and its vicinity were under the command of Gen. McCLELLAN when he was relieved; and he issued his orders directly to the commanding officer of Washington, with one single restriction, that no troops should be moved from the command of Washington until I was notified by General McCLELLAN or the commanding officer here. In all other respects they were all under the direction of Gen. BURNSIDE. When he relieved him, I was told that they remained precisely the same as before. On my visit to Gen. BURNSIDE at Warrenton, on the 12th of November, in speaking about the boats and things, that he required from here, I repeated to him that they were all subject to his orders, with that single exception. To prevent the necessity of the commanding officer here reporting the order for the boats here, the order was drawn up upon his table and signed by me directly to Gen. WOODBURY. On the evening of the 12th, I think, the evening that I was there. Gen. WOODBURY on my return, told me he had received the order. I told him that in all these matters he was under Gen. BURNSIDE's directions. I had nothing further to give him except to communicate that order to him. In conversation with him and Gen. MEIGS, it was proposed that the train of pontoons should go down by land as they could be gotten down sooner in that way without interfering with the supplies which had to be sent to Aquia Creek. I gave no other order or direction in regard to the matter than that all other matters were under Gen. BURNSIDE's direction. He also informed me while at Warrenton that Capt. DUANE, Chief of the Engineers, had already sent an order to Harper's Ferry for the pontoon train there to go down. The order had been issued. They being under Gen. BURNSIDE's immediate and direct command I did not interfere at all in relation to them.

Q.—Do you know whether there was any delay in starting them in their progress there?

A.—I heard that there was a delay from the steamers getting aground with the pontoons, and there was a delay, I understood, in the train going down by land on account of the difficulty of the roads and the inexperience, perhaps, of the officer in command, and it has to be taken up by water part of the way. It would not get through by land. I considered from the reports I received, that these delays resulted mainly from accident and the elements, that no man had any control over. Gen. BURNSIDE telegraphed to me in relation to Gen. WOODBURY, thinking that he had not used due diligence, but afterward told me he was perfectly satisfied with what Gen. WOODBURY had done, and that he did not know but that the commanding officer of the train that went down had done his duty; also that he was disposed to make no further investigation of that matter—that he was pretty well satisfied.

Q.—Was there any request for you to delay the advance of the men until the boats arrived, or anything of that kind?

A.—No, Sir; I remember this—that Gen. WOODBURY in a conversation with me, said that Gen. BURNSIDE could not get down for several days after I told him, and that he could not need the boats till Gen. BURNSIDE arrived. I think I remarked to him that I did not know exactly the day when Gen. BURNSIDE would move; that I could not tell him, as the General did not know himself. While I was at Warrenton he proposed this movement, and he was directed to make all preparations for it, but not to begin it till the President was consulted I returned on the afternoon of the 13th, and I think, on the morning of the 14th I had an interview with the President, in which he consented to Gen. BURNSIDE's plans, and I immediately telegraphed him to go ahead, as he had proposed. I understood that there was considerable delay in getting the boats from Alexandria down to the Rappahannock River, on account of the bad roads, difficulty of transportation, &c., but no other delay than that which would naturally occur over a rough country like that, and accidental delay in laying the bridges, was reported to me from the inexperience of the pontooniers who laid the upper bridges. There was considerable delay in that. We could not commence the repairs of the railroad until Gen. BURNSIDE took possession of it, as it was all in the possession of the enemy. That was understood between Gen. HAUPT and Gen. MEIGS in my presence. Gen. HAUPT went over with me to make the arrangements in repairing the roads as early as possible. I remember the conversation. He could not have anything, but would have everything down ready as soon as he could; and when he found Gen. BURNSIDE in possession he would commence.

Question by Mr. Gooch.—When you were at Warrenton had Gen. BURNSIDE just assumed command of the Army of the Potomac?

A.—Five days before, I think.

Q.—Was there, or not, any agreement or understanding between you and Gen. BURNSIDE that the pontoons and army stores, or either of them, should be furnished to him by the authorities here without his looking after them himself?

A.—No, Sir.

Q.—I will say any stores necessary for him to cross the river and move forward for Fredericksburgh?

A.—Yes sir. I requested Gen. MEIGS, as Chief Quartermaster, and Gen. HAUPT, in charge of the railroads, to go with me to consult with Gen. BURNSIDE, and told him that everything was at his disposition. He must make his own requisitions and give his own orders; that I would not interfere except to assist in carrying his views out as much as I could; whenever anything was reported to me as not being done, that I would render all the assistance in my power, and just previous to that time, with reference to a requisition which he had sent me, I told him not to send me any requisitions, but to make them on the proper heads of departments, and if they did not do their duty then immediately report it to me, but that I could not attend to any requisitions at all.

Q.—When you were there, was the time considered that it would take to move the army from where it was to Falmouth, opposite Fredericksburgh?

A.—No, Sir, for it was not determined at that time that the movement should be made.

Q.—Was it not determined that it should be made, provided the President assented to it?

A.—Yes, Sir, and he was immediately to commence his preparations as though they had been assented to, until telegraphed to the contrary, but not to make any movement.

Q.—Was, or was not, the time requisite for the movement of the army from where it was to Falmouth considered at that time?

A.—It may have been spoken of in conversation. We had a long conversation of three or four hours, and it may have been alluded to. Nothing definite was decided upon in relation to the time it would take. Indeed, I remarked when I left him that he was of opinion he would cross a portion of his forces at the fords above the junction of the rivers. That was the opinion expressed before I left.

Q.—And the residue at Falmouth?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Do you recollect whether or no there was any discussion when you were there as to the point, that it was necessary that the pontoons and the army should arrive at Falmouth at the same time, so that the enemy should not know the point designated for the crossing?

A.—I do not think that was mentioned. This matter I know was mentioned, that the pontoons should be there as soon as they could after we had got possession of the road, so that they could be taken down.

Q.—At any time did Gen. WOODBURY go to you and suggest to you that it would be impossible to get the pontoons or stores at Falmouth as soon as was expected, and that was the reason it would be advisable that the movement of the army of Gen. BURNSIDE should be delayed.

A.—Not to my recollection. Gen. WOODBURY, in a conversation (I think a part of the time Gen. MEIGS was present) spoke of the difficulty in getting instantly sufficient transportation to go down, and, therefore, that the train should go by land. The transports were required to get down provisions, and it was suggested that as few as possible should be used for moving the pontoon train.

Q.—Since Gen. BURNSIDE has been in command of the Army of the Potomac, have all its movements been made according to his judgment and direction, so far as you know?

A.—Yes Sir, entirely.

Question by Mr. Wright.—I understand you to say, General, that the delay in the bridges, you think, was caused by the elements and the inefficiency of men, and that there is nobody to blame that you know of?

A.—I will not say inefficiency of men, but I will say this: that Gen. BURNSIDE reported to me that the officer in command of the land train had not been as efficient as he ought to have been, but he afterward modified that report. I told him to arrest any person who had neglected his duty, and send him to Washington immediately, and he said to me that he did not think it necessary.

By the Chairman—One more question is suggested to me, which I will put. It is whether you were requested to repair that road before the army left Harper's Ferry?

The Witness—Before Gen. McCLELLAN's army left Harper's Ferry?

The Chairman—Yes, Sir. Before they left there were you requested by Gen. McCLELLAN to have that road repaired?

A.—Not that I remember. I was told that one of his staff officers had requested it to be repaired, and the answer was immediately made by myself, "We cannot do anything there until he takes possession of the road;" and, moreover, I did not know that he was going there, for he had not informed me as to where he intended to go. If at any time any suggestion of that kind was made to me, it was made with reference to some future time, and not as to any immediate action. No request was made, according to my recollection. I will add that, if any paper came to me in which an allusion was made to that being done, it was referred by me immediately to the head of the department having charge of it, either to Gen. HAUPT or Gen. MEIGS.

Q.—But you do not recollect any such request?

A.—No, Sir.

GEN. MEIGS' TESTIMONY.

Gen. MEIGS, in answer to a request for explanations of anything occurring to him relative to the battle of Fredericksburgh, says that, as he presumes the enquiry arises principally from the excited state of the public mind and the public Press, and as statements published show a misapprehension of the true facts of the case, and as the Press in some degree holds him responsible for certain failures with the pontoon train and supplies, and as the Quartermaster's Department has been held responsible for certain failures, he will begin at that point, and therefore states before the Army of the Potomac left the vicinity of Harper's Ferry I received a telegram from Col. INGALLS, Chief Quartermaster, which I have read within a few days, though I have not got it here. I can remember its substance. He requested me to direct that all the cars that could be obtained should be loaded with quartermaster's supplies and placed in a convenient position on the railroad west of Alexandria, so as to be sent over the Manassas Gap, and over the other railroads radiating from that point, to meet the army on its march. He also requested in the last sentence of his dispatch that I would cause the road from Aquia Creek to Richmond via Fredericksburgh to be put in repair. I wrote on the back of that telegram, as is my habit, directions to give the order, which I thought were necessary. I sent copies of the telegram to the principal agents of supply departments, to the Commissary General in regard to the commissionary stores, and to the Chief Quartermaster of this depôt, whose duty it is to provide Quartermaster's stores and provide the transportation for them, and to those who had charge of the repairing and running of the military railroads, Gen. HAUPT and Col. McCALLUM. I inquired what direction had been made for the repairing of these roads and directed those under my orders to be ready to meet the requirements of the dispatche. I knew the matter was in good hands and I took it for granted that all proper preparations had already been made, and I learned on inquiry that they had been, that they were ready. I remember writing on the back of the telegram, that of course, the repair of the railroad to Richmond would depend upon its being occupied by the troops of the United States. It was at that time in the possession of the enemy, and it would have been as easy for me at that time to have provided barracks in Richmond as to repair the road to Richmond. I saw Gen. HALLECK and mentioned this to him.

I do not remember exactly what reply I made to Col. INGALLS. But on seeing him afterwards I spoke of it, and I understood that this was a dispatch written at his own instance, not specifically directed to Gen. McCLELLAN. But in that I may be mistaken. I have not spoken to Gen. McCLELLAN on the subject, and I derive this impression from what I remember of Col. INGALL's statement. We had then, I believe, everything nearly ready to repair the road whenever we should be able to get possession of it. We had built there last Spring a very large wharf, about 1,000 feet in length. There were requisitions on the Quartermasters to build still larger wharves, one about 1,800 feet long. At the time the corps of Gen. BURNSIDE landed there and went forward to the Rappahannock and Rapidan, I remember at that time advising the authorities that, by the time I could get a vessel load of timber to the place, it would be abandoned, and the fact was that before any progress could be made in building the 1,800 feet additional wharf, our work already constructed there was destroyed; cars, and a considerable quantity of stores were destroyed, and the bridges burned, to my great regret. I endeavored to prevent it, but heard of the intention too late. The next time this matter came to my attention in any way was when Gen. HALLECK informed me that Gen. BURNSIDE had taken command of the Army of the Potomac, and desired to change his base of operations, and he requested me to accompany him to Warrenton to see Gen. BURNSIDE. I went with him on the 12th of November, and with us went Gen. HAUPT, the Director and Superintendent of Military Railroads, appointed by the Secretary of War, who acts in connection with the Quartermaster's Department. We furnish the funds, and he is supposed to be under the direction of the Department. He is a very able and competent man. There was a good deal of conversation with Gen. BURNSIDE that night, which I did not hear. I left Gen. HALLECK and himself to discuss the project of the campaign, and I entered into it only late in the evening. I was informed that the General-in-Chief would refer the matter to the President for his approval, and that Gen. BURNSIDE was to carry out his plans if the President should approve. I do not think anything was said to me about pontoons then, but Gen. BURNSIDE asked me how soon I could have supplies ready for his army; I think he asked me how many days it would take to get the supplies to Aquia Creek; I told him it could not be done in a day, that we could do a good deal, but that it took time to accomplish so great a movement; here was an army of over —— men, the population of a great city to be suddenly whipped up, to break off from its lines of communication and be transferred to a new position, and their supplies to be received from a narrow channel, in a contracted harbor, with very shallow water; that to supply them all with the necessaries of life was like undertaking to supply Boston without any previous provision being made; I said it could not be done without great labor, and that I would collect all the suitable vessels I could and have them employed in the work; we had a number of vessels, barges, canal boats, already in the river. Our canal boats were principally up the canal between here and Harper's Ferry; I said that we would collect them as rapidly as possible, and I would promise to have the supplies at Aquia Creek by the time he got there, but that he had 3,000 or 4,000 wagons with his army, and when he got to Falmouth, opposite Fredericksburgh, he must send his wagons down to the Potomac, and let them haul he supplies to the camps; that the railroad could not be repaired in a day, that we did not know the condition of the bridges. He was under the impression, I think, that the bridges had not been burned. They had been burned, however. I understand that there was not a large force at Fredericksburgh. Capt. DAHLGREN, of Gen. SIGEL's staff, had made a dash into Fredericksburgh a few days before, and had driven out what little force was there, and I was told by Gen. HEINTZELMAN that in the dash he had burned some bridges. I had the impression that he had burned these very bridges; that they were burned then, and not before; but what were the facts in that matter I do not know. On our way out to Warrenton Gen. HAUPT consulted with me as to the best mode of organizing a corps of workmen for the railroad, repair and wharf building. I told him there were two regiments of engineer soldiers here, under the charge of Gen. WOODBURY, already organized; that they were composed principally of mechanics and workmen; that he could get no more intelligent—no more skilful—no better disciplined men, and they would serve as guards and workmen, and I advised him to ask Gen. HALLECK to place a portion of them, at least, at his disposal, and to order them to Aquia Creek. The idea struck him favorably. He requested it, and subsequently orders were given to send down this Engineer Regiment under Gen. WOODBURY. I did not see, at that time, Gen. BURNSIDE's letter containing his plan of the campaign. When he last visited this city he conversed with me on this subject, and expressed some surprise that I had not seen it. He thought I had, and then read it to me. I do not remember how the question of the pontoon train came up at Warrenton. My own recollection of the circumstance is that it occurred to me that if he was going to Fredericksburgh he would want pontoons. I remember that I wrote in pencil an order to Gen. WOODBURY to call at the Quartermaster's at Washington for transportation for his pontoons to Aquia Creek, being under the impression at the time that the bridges were up near Harper's Ferry, and that they would have to be transported from that place. I thought he might need canal-boats, and perhaps horses to tow them down the canal, and steamers to take them from Washington to Aquia Creek. I handed the order to Gen. HALLECK, saying: "Gen. WOODBURY is an engineer, and it is not proper, therefore, for me to sign the order. If you think it is right, I advise you to sign it." He signed it, and it was sent off to the telegraph office. I also wrote a dispatch to the Quartermaster in Baltimore, who was under my orders, directing a copy to be handed *in transitu* to the Quartermaster here, calling on him to send 100 barges, as soon as possible, to Washington, for the purpose of taking supplies to Aquia Creek and Belle Plain. These barges draw but little water, and are available in the river where larger vessels cannot approach the shore. Gen. HAUPT was with us. He required no directions for he was in consultation with Gen. BURNSIDE and Gen. HALLECK. He had everything ready. It was perfectly well understood by him and myself, and I think also by Gen. HALLECK and Gen. BURNSIDE, though I do not think it was a subject of special conversation, that nothing could be done at Aquia Creek until we had possession of it. The supplies under protection of the gunboats could lay off in the harbor, but could not land. I thought the Engineer Brigade able to drive off the enemy's pickets and land, and I belive it was done. I think the Engineer Brigade landed at Aquia Creek before Gen. BURNSIDE reached Falmouth, and on their landing the enemy's pickets ran away, and then operations commenced. I was of opinion, and suppose I expressed it to Gen. HALLECK, that the best way to get pontoons and pontoon trains from Washington would be to pack the flooring and ropes, and anchors, etc. of the bridges in the pontoon boats, and tow them down the river by steamers, while the wagons on which they are ordinarily transported, when moving by land, with their horses and harness, should march under a guard from Alexandria to Aquia Creek, there to take up the pontoons and transport them to Falmouth by the common road. By this means I supposed the wagons would go light, and would go through more rapidly and with less wear and tear to the horses. I returned to Washington on the 13th, with Gen. HALLECK, and I do not think I had any discussion with him on that subject after I returned. I do not think I saw Gen. HALLECK again, or spoke with him about the transfer of the pontoon train. I did see Gen. WOODBURY. He called at my office, and we had some conversation. He did not, as I remember, ask me to give any orders or do anything, and I presumed everything was going on satisfactorily. I asked him when he would go down, and he said he would go on Sunday. I do not remember the date, but it was the Sunday following our visit to Washington, on the 16th of November. He, with Col. INGALLS, and I think Gen. HAUPT, went down in a steamer on Thursday to look at the place. A small portion of the Engineer Brigade had gone before, as I understood. I have since asked the Chief Quartermaster here, since the complaint which has been made on the subject, what was done by him, and he tells me that he received one evening a request from Gen. WOODBURY to have two steamers ready to take six companies of the Engineer Brigade to Aquia Creek, I think, and some to Belle Plain, and to tow down some pontoons the next morning. He answered that the steamers should be in the eastern branch, ready for him, by daylight next morning, and they were there at the time appointed. The preparation of the pontoons, I am told, occupied all that day, and the next day was dark and foggy, so that the steamers did not sail, I think, until the next morning; and one of them got aground at the mouth of the river, and lay there some time before they succeeded in getting her off. I have since inquired whether he had heard anything in regard to the search of the pontoon train and wagons, and he told me that the wagon train had started across the country, but a rain coming on had raised the streams. The wagons were long, unwieldy and difficult to turn, and they failed to get through; and that the wagon train finally returned to the shore and took boat to Aquia Creek.

That is all hearsay, but I presume that it is all correct. The supplies were sent down. The barges were sent here from Baltimore and Philadelphia. We could not get enough in Baltimore, and I believe the army has not suffered from the want of any supplies. As soon as the army reached Falmouth and protected the line, and I think even before it opened communication with Aquia Creek work was commenced on the railroad, and the railroad was repaired. That large wharf of 1,000 feet in length has been entirely reconstructed, and we have made preparations for building other wharves, extending the railroad down along the river, giving increased facilities for landing. When Gen. BURNSIDE showed me his plan of campaign I found, as I remember now, that there was provision that the pontoons themselves should march by land to meet him; exactly at what time I am unable to say; but any expectations that a pontoon train should be at Falmouth when the army arrived there, would necessarily be disappointed, in my opinion. No pontoon train could get to Falmouth without a sufficient guard to drive out the enemy's pickets, and if it got there before the army, the enemy would have captured it. What all the army itself did not do, it was not to be expected that the guard of the pontoon train should do. Hearing, when Gen. BURNSIDE was last in this City, there were complaints on this subject, (and here allow me to say that the Quartermaster's Department, which does a great deal for the army, is apt to be held responsible for everything that is not done,) hearing that it was blamed for the failure to get the pontoons to Falmouth by the time the army reached that place, I replied to my informant, who was connected with the Press, that the Quartermaster's Department was no more responsible for the march of the pontoon train than for the march of a battery of artillery or a regiment of infantry; that its business was to provide material for the transportation of the army, and it had done so; had filled every requisition, and had heard no complaint on that point; Gen. BURNSIDE came to see me a few minutes after this gentleman left my room, and I mentioned to him that I had just told that public opinion was censuring the Department. He laughed, and said he had not only no complaint to make against the officers of the Quartermaster's Department or Commissary Department, but he was surprised that they had been able to accomplish so much.

Q.—Who would be responsible for that particular duty of getting the pontoons over there? Gen. WOODBURY?

Gen. MEIGS answered: If Gen. WOODBURY had orders from Gen. BURNSIDE, he was responsible for carrying them out, or making him understand that it was impracticable to carry them out. The march of an army is to be managed by its commander. When a General undertakes to make a movement, he must give his orders himself, as Gen. HALLECK has told you. Every order that Gen. BURNSIDE requested from me, every requisition that was made upon me, he says himself, was fully and promptly satisfied. If you want my opinion, I have an opinion on the subject, not as to any body's being to blame, but as to what the facts were. I think there was a mistake made in expecting the pontoons, which, I believe, at the time, were at Berlin, to be got to Falmouth while the army made a two and a half days' march. I do not think it practicable. A march of 100 miles for a pontoon train is a serious matter, whether the march be made by land or water. The march across from Warrenton after the army was fairly under way, ought not, I suppose, to have taken over two days and a half, and I did not think it did. I think they marched rapidly and crossed over to Falmouth in two days and a half from what little I heard of the discussion between Gen. HALLECK and Gen. BURNSIDE, I only heard a part of it. I expected that a portion of Gen. BURNSIDE's army would cross above Fredericksburgh, and I think he used the expression that within twenty-four or forty-eight hours after he got permission to move, his cavalry would be in Fredericksburgh, the main body of his army, however, not crossing above but crossing at Falmouth.

Gen. HAUPT's testimony was taken, but was not submitted with the report.

Funeral of Rev. A. B. Fuller.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

The obsequies of Rev. A. B. FULLER, late Chaplain of the Massachusetts Sixteenth Regiment, killed at Fredericksburgh, took place to-day in the First Unitarian Church, in Chauncey-street. The attendance was large, including Gov. ANDREW and staff, many clergymen, Judges of Courts, military officers and eminent citizens. The independent Cadets acted as escort. The remains were deposited in Mount Auburn.

Commissary Contracts.

BALTIMORE, Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Contracts were awarded to-day, by the United States Commissary here, to parties in this city for 1,000 bbls. prime mess pork, at $15 73; 1,000 bbls. beef at $9 98; 300,000 lbs. yellow coffee sugar at $12 20@$12 40.

McKEONE & Co., Philadelphia, were awarded 50,000 lbs. hard yellow soap at 7c.; 50,000 lbs. do. at $6 98 per 100 lbs.

THE PORTER COURT-MARTIAL.

TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENCE.

Interesting and Important Documentary Evidence.

Developments Regarding Pope's Campaign.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

In the PORTER Court Martial to-day, Gen. PORTER having procured his witnesses, the examination on the part of the defence began. Maj.-Gen. PARKE, Chief of Gen. BURNSIDE's Staff, was sworn, but deposed to nothing of special importance. Col. CLEARY, of the Quartermaster and Capt. FIFIELD, of the Commissary Departments, were examined, touching the condition of the roads and the state of the night of August 29. They were both agreed as to the impracticability of marching troops at such a time.

Capt. MONTEITH and Lieut. WILDS, both of Gen. PORTER's Staff, were examined and testified to having seen a bearer of dispatches from Gen. POPE to Gen. PORTER on the night of the 27th of August, and to other matters of minor interest. The Court then adjourned over till Friday.

DOCUMENTARY TESTIMONY SUBMITTED.

GEN. PORTER TO GEN. MORELL.

[Received 10:30 A. M., Aug. 23.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, Aug. 23, 1862.

Gen. Morell:

Dispatch received. Move at once to Kelly's Ford, and occupy and hold it. Relieve Griffin when Sykes gets up to him. If you are called upon to go to Rappahannock Station, move up to the support of the army there.

Your artillery is on the road to you. Sykes will move up this morning, and relieve Griffin.

F. J. PORTER,
Major-General Commanding.

GEN. PORTER TO GENS. SYKES AND MORELL.

2 P. M. 24th.

Gens. Sykes and Morell:

Push a scout to Rappahannock Station, and find out if Pope has the pickets near there, and gain information of Pope or the enemy. Pope attacked the enemy yesterday, near Sulphur Springs, and the latter retreated. He was to renew the attack to-day, and it is probable Pope is pushing after him, knowing the river at Rappahannock was not fordable. Gen. Halleck's orders are for us to hold the Rappahannock. Your artillery is *en route*; also Sykes'. You will, therefore, carry out your former instructions. Reinforcements will push up to you. All goes right.

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

THE SAME.

FALMOUTH, August 24, 1862.

[Received 8.30 A. M., August 25.]

Gens. Morell and Sykes:

Keep your commands well in hand for any emergency, and before advancing another step do your utmost to ascertain the position of Pope's forces, and where the enemy is. what force is at Kelly's Ford, and has the enemy been seen on the opposite bank. Give me all the information you have and the location of your forces, and amounts of cavalry at the fords. There is no more cavalry here to send you. If you can push scouts over the fords, do so as far as possible. What is the latest information? Send your dispatches so that Gen. Sykes can see them. Direct Griffin to fix the ground or woods at Barnett's so that a small force with artillery can hold it. I am just informed that Pope is on the Rappahannock, at Warrenton Springs, having attacked and whipped the enemy. I wish to hold Kelly's Ford tomorrow, and hope by the time I join you that you will be able to inform me what is at and opposite Rappahannock Station.

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

GEN. PORTER TO GEN. BURNSIDE.

[United States Military Telegraph—Received Aug. 25, 1862, from Deep Creek.]

To Gen. Burnside:

The report to me that all Pope's cavalry at Kelly's was withdrawn, is an error. He left a small company, after visiting the Fords. I find, or think the enemy is merely watching us at Barnett's, and was within striking distance of Kelly's, with sufficient force to resist crossing. The enemy has shown himself in small parties. I have decided to leave Griffin at Barnett's for a day longer; the remainder of Morell at Kelly's, and to-morrow, depending on information from a party I have sent to Rappahannock Station to push Sykes there, or halt him in supporting distance of Morell, ready to push on the Rappahannock Station. I find the river can be crossed almost anywhere by cavalry and infantry, so that, with the exception of the prominent fords, watching is all I can do. The special fords I can hold easily. At Rappahannock Station are four companies of Rhode Island Cavalry, and Kearny's pickets are at Bealton. Reno and Reynolds I can hear nothing of. Reno's Batteries have been withdrawn from Kelly's and Barnett's. The country is miserable, scarcely producing good telegraph poles and weeds, much less furnish subsistence for man or beast for this army.

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

THE SAME.

[U. S. Military Telegraph, received Aug. 25, 1862, from Advance.]

To Gen. Burnside:

Have you received my dispatches indicating my movements to-morrow? You know that Rappahannock Station is under fire from the opposite hills, and the houses were destroyed by Pope.

I do not like to direct movements on such uncertain data as that furnished by Gen. Halleck. I know he is misinformed of the location of some of the corps mentioned in his dispatches.

Reno has not been at Kelly's for three (3) days, and there is only a picket at Rappahannock Station. At 5 to-morrow shall go there myself *vid* Kelly's Ford. Does Gen. McClellan approve? About daybreak my scout and Aid will be in from Bealton. Have you any orders? I want cavalry to remain with me for a few days. For want of grain and provisions I have had to send home some who came up.

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

THE SAME.

[U. S. Military Telegraph, received Aug. 25, 1862—3.30. From advance.]

To Gen. Burnside:

Dispatch of 10.30 received. Gen. Halleck is misinformed in regard to the location of Reno's command. He is not at Kelly's Ford, nor can I hear of him. No one but four companies of Rhode Island Cavalry are at Rappahannock Station at Bealton. This was the last information received. Have sent to Bealton to get information, and shall start Sykes at daybreak for Rappahannock Station or its vicinity. The Sixth New-York occupy Barnett's, and are on opposite bank. I think they can hold and watch that point with the addition of a Dutch battery; but, if there is a battalion of infantry available, without breaking a brigade, *think* it well to put it there to-morrow. Reynolds has gone, and like Reno, is beyond reach. This portion of my corps would have been one day further forward had I any information of Pope's forces on the enemy.

F. J. PORTER, Major General.

GEN. PORTER TO GEN. BURNSIDE.

ADVANCE, Aug. 25, 1862.

To Gen. A. E. Burnside:

My aid has just returned from Bealton, and he says Burney is there with two regiments, one at Rappahannock Station. Pope's headquarters are at Warrenton, Kearny at Warrenton Junction. King went to Warrenton to-day. Hooker was to go. Reno is at Sulphur Springs. Revnolds at Warrenton. Banks and Sigel are at Sulphur Springs, fighting there today. A deserter came over to-day, crossing at Rappahannock station; said enemy moving his forces to our right. Those left down this way are three regiments which have been cut up in the battles. At Braadreth's Station are five hundred (500) wagons, guarded by a small force of infantry, and squadron of cavalry. At Rappahannock Station, the river is fordable for all arms. Is my arrangement satisfactory?

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

THE SAME.

ADVANCE, BARNETT'S FORD, 8 A. M., Aug. 26, 1862.

All quiet at and on the Rappahannock during the night. At Kelly's Ford the impression exists that two brigades of infantry, with one regiment of cavalry, are opposite Rappahannock Station. A squadron was seen last evening opposite Kelly's. A company from Bealton, to-day, says Kearny is there with his whole division. I expect Sykes to halt about four miles short of Bealton, at water, and until I can find a proper camp. Water is only to be had by going within range from opposite shore. I shall go by Kelly's Ford, and pass through Rappahannock Station and Bealton, to Sykes, where my camp will be. Please have the telegraph run up that way by troops. Barnett's and Kelly's Fords will communicate with you by telegraph to-night. Many men are sick, and for the want of medicines and ambulances will suffer. Have directed trains to be sent for grain.

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

GEN. BURNSIDE TO GEN. PORTER.

FALMOUTH, Aug. 26.

Major-Gen. F. J. Porter:

Until Sumner's troops arrive, it would be well to hold the fords with an ample force. You are now in connection with Pope, and no doubt can get what cavalry you want. When you can dispense with the three (3) companies of Indiana Cavalry please send them back. We will send up the forty wagons with provisions for Morell and Griffin. Have sent down to Aquia for wagon load of hospital stores. Will send them with supply train if they arrive. The wagons and ambulances will be sent out as they arrive with the direction you require. All quiet here. Your dispatches all received, and your disposition of troops is all right. You state that Reno is expected to pass to your left. To what point is he to go?

A. E. BURNSIDE, Major-General.

GEN. PORTER TO GEN. BANKS.

[United States Military Telegraph, received Aug. 26, 1862. From Advance.]

To Gen. Parke:

I dispatched you from Bealton, under the impression that Sykes' was three (3) miles off. I went to Barnett's. All is well at the first two.(?) Griffin is at first, Morell with two brigades at the second. I have decided to post Sykes at Bealton and picket with strength from infantry and artillery Rappahannock Station, and patrol with cavalry. The Rappahannock is fordable everywhere, and if the enemy desired to cross, he would go with a larger force than I have. Camps, for want of water, cannot be found nearer, except within gunshot. I have sent back cavalry as fast as I could and ordered them from the divisions and directed Morell to use those at the fords. This I did before receiving your telegram. The one hundred and fifty cavalry will be a good thing. Send grain and provisions. Can be brought to Bealton from Warrenton. Please send up the wagons and ambulances, and have the drivers directed to pick up sick in house about 9 miles from Bealton, on right hand side, and bring them here. The supply train must go to Barnett's and Kelly's Fords; ambulances also which belong to Morell. Pleaseto have sent up to-morrow an operator and instrument for Bealton to work the other line. Also the corps mail.

F. J. PORTER, Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDER FROM GEN. POPE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA,
NEAR GROVETON, Aug. 30, 1862—12 o'clock M.

SPECIAL ORDER No. —. The following forces will be immediately thrown forward in pursuit of the enemy, and press him vigorously during the whole day.

Major-Gen. McDowell is assigned the command of the pursuit. Major-Gen. Porter's corps will push forward on the Warrenton Turnpike, followed by the division of Brig.-Gen. King. Gen. Ricketts will pursue on the Havmarket Road, followed by the corps of Major-Gen. Heintzleman. The necessary cavalry will be assigned to these columns by Major-Gen. McDowell, to whom regular and frequent reports will be made.

The general headquarters will be somewhere on the Warrenton Turnpike.

By command of Major-Gen. POPE.

(Signed) GEO. D. RUGGLES,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GEN. PORTER TO GEN. M'CLELLAN.

CENTREVILLE, Aug. 31, 1862.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I send you copies of some orders under which I have moved lately. I advanced in pursuit of the enemy, and struck the centre of his line, specially under the direction of Gen. Lee, and was whipped, as was the whole army, badly—that is, it was overpowered. Two of Morell's brigades were in action, under Butterfield, and two of Sykes', (Buchanan and Chapman,) and they did nobly. The latter lost by volunteers firing into them, before passing through them. They were not sustained on the right, and had to retire. The Pennsylvania Reserves did beautifully. They show the advantage of being well led by Reynolds, Meade, Seymour and Jackson. A battery was lost and retaken by them, but again lost, after gallant resistance. Warren has only 187 men left. Not one missing, and only commanding officers. We were driven from the field, and here we are, after marching all last night, strongly located in a position which, if the enemy shells, will cause slaughter; but I do not believe he will attack, but get in our rear, and compel us to attack him in a well-selected place. The men are without heart, but will fight when cornered. To-day Gen. Pope asked the question of the Government if any arrangements had been made to protect Washington. He said to us chiefs of corps present when the reply was received that he was glad the Government had decided the question for him; but we were to fight wherever the enemy was. We were not to return to Alexandria, as all forces were coming to us. I believe the decision was a general disappointment except to him. However, we obey, and do what Halleck thinks is best. Pope says there are political considerations which control—not the safety of the army. But our men will not fight with heart when they know, if wounded, (as we cannot retain the field against odds,) they are to be left to the care of the enemy. Pope sent in a flag, to-day, to get our wounded. I have many officers in their hands—some of the most valuable from every State. The wagons are gone, and our artillery and cavalry will not soon be movable. Artillery and cavalry—the latter is broken down—and as Pope says, he has no cavalry, though he has regiments. We have taken very few prisoners, (some 400.) In return we have left all our killed, and the worst of our wounded in their hands. The enemy got one battery of six pieces yesterday. I believe it belonged to Reynolds. The enemy took at Manassas one battery, and left one piece (iron) spiked and useless. It was left on the ground when we abandoned Manassas. I here it is claimed we captured it. We are bivouacking, and as I have had no dinner or supper to-day, and no chance of any to-morrow. I will bid you good bye, in hope of soon seeing you, (without being whipped,) and that you have plenty to eat. If we return. I hope the force will be directed to take different roads to the fords, and they will be well manned and protected by us. I do not wish to see the enemy back if it can be helped; but I fear it may be kept here at the will of the enemy, to cripple it so that when it does get back it will be so crippled that it cannot defend the fords against the powerful force of the enemy, who will hold it here while they cross into Maryland. I may be in error as to their purpose. Lee is here; Jackson is not now here. Cadmus Wilcox commands Hill's division directly in front, and the enemy are massing to turn us. I expect every hour to hear of our rear being cut, and our supplies and trains (scarcely guarded at Fairfax Station) being destroyed, as we are required to stay here and fight. I am glad Couch is coming up on the road; hope